

Working Together

To Help Working Families

Promising Practices, Programs and Services Section

*A listing of efforts underway throughout Indiana to
help working families achieve a better life
for themselves and their families*

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ADVOCACY

County CASA Program
(Montgomery County)

Contact Information:
Name: Rich Alderfer
Phone: (317) 362-0694
Fax: (317) 362-0724
E-mail: mococasa@hotmail.com

Short summary of the initiative:
The Youth Service Bureau of Montgomery County administers a CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocate) program in Montgomery County. The program involves about 25-30 court cases at any point in time, involving 35-40 children involved in the court system. The program, which partners with the Montgomery County Youth Services Bureau, reaches out to churches through interested ministers for volunteers to train as advocates.

ADULT EDUCATION

Family Literacy Program (Brown County)

Contact Information:
Name: Chris Myers
Address: Brown County Even Start
P.O. Box 38
Nashville, IN 47448
Phone: (812) 988-6960

Short summary of the initiative:
Brown County School Corporation conducts a Family Literacy Program, which includes adult literacy, GED, early childhood education and parenting skills.

GED Program (Clay County)

Contact Information:
Name: Mary Yelton
Address: 800 S. Alabama Street
Brazil, IN 47834
Phone: (812) 443-4461 x.124

Short summary of the initiative:
A Clay County provider offers an excellent GED program with very flexible hours and a very caring teacher. At one time, there was an employer in Brazil that was offering incentives or promotions for employees who obtained their GED.

Adult Learning (Clinton County)

Contact Information:
Name: Frankfort Adult Learning Center
Address: 57 N. Jackson Street, Suite 101
Frankfort, IN 46041
Phone: (765) 659-1170

Short summary of the initiative:
The Frankfort Adult Learning Center has evening hours to promote accessibility to IMPACT clients who are working to obtain a GED. The Learning Center also offers English as a Second Language classes to assist the county's large Hispanic population.

GED and ESL Classes (Tippecanoe County)

Contact Information:
Name: Lafayette Adult Reading Academy
Address: 629 N. 6th Street
Lafayette, IN 47901
Phone: (765) 449-3890

Short summary of the initiative:
The Lafayette Adult Reading Academy (LARA) has evening hours to promote accessibility for IMPACT clients who are working to obtain a GED. LARA also has English as a Second Language (ESL) classes to assist the county's large Hispanic population.

CHILD CARE

The Kasting House Project (Jackson County)

Contact Information:
Name: Janice Read, Coordinator
Child Care Resource Center
Address: 210 W. Second Street
Seymour, IN 47274
Phone: (812) 523-5168
E-mail: janiceread@core.com

Short summary of the initiative:
A public-private partnership (Freeman Field businesses, City of Seymour, Child Care Network, Inc., United Fund) developed in response to employer interest and request for convenient, available, affordable, quality child care. Child Care Network is a not-for-profit organization which operates a before and after school child care program and serves as a fiscal agent for several child/family/child care provider associated programs. Business interest was developed through Symposium Initiative activities.

Sick Child Care (Knox County)

Contact Information:

Name: Shannon Curry, RN
Address: 1602 N. Upper 11th
Vincennes, IN 47591
Phone: (812) 886-4882

Short summary of the initiative:

Tommy Wolfe Child Care is able to accept children who are slightly ill. This encourages parents to go to or stay at work and avoid jeopardizing their job, because they know that their child is receiving quality care. The center is run by the Knox County Association for Retarded Citizens (KCARC), and construction of the center was funded through a private donation.

LEAP of Noble County (Noble County)

Contact Information:

Name: Becky Calhoun,
Program Coordinator
Address: P.O. Box 76
Albion, IN 46701
Phone: (888) 571-5327

Short summary of the initiative:

LEAP of Noble County provides child care services while parents are participating in English as a Second Language classes, computer training, GED preparation, parenting classes and job skills classes.

CRISIS ASSISTANCE

Operation Big Heart (Brown County)

Contact Information:

Name: Brown County Office of
Family & Children
Address: P.O. Box 325
Nashville, IN 47448
Phone: (812) 988-2239

Short summary of the initiative:

Operation Big Heart is funded anonymously by individual and corporate contributions for any emergency need, with a limit of access to funds once per year.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic Violence Awareness
(Delaware County)

Contact Information:

Name: Family Services of Delaware
County
Address: 806 W. Jackson Street
Muncie, IN 47305
Phone: (765) 284-7789
E-mail: fsdc@netdirect.net

Short summary of the initiative:

Family Services of Delaware County provides an education and prevention program for sheltered victims of domestic violence. The program teaches basic information regarding domestic violence, safety, health and medical issues, self-respect, support network-building, effects of domestic violence on children, motivation, basic social skills and life management skills.

OFC Involvement with Domestic Violence Task
Force (Gibson County)

Contact Information:

Name: Dennis Perkins
Address: 321 S. Fifth Avenue
Princeton, IN 47670
Phone: (812) 385-4727

Short summary of the initiative:

Both Family Case Coordinators (FCCs) are active members of the Domestic Violence Task Force of Gibson County, Inc. This gives them specific knowledge of available services for clients who are domestic violence victims. Both FCCs also belong to the Welfare to Work local planning council. The council arranges an annual, full-day Agency Conference in which several agencies throughout the county come together to learn about each other's resources. This is over and above the monthly, one-hour agency meeting, which the FCC supervisor regularly attends.

Domestic Violence Assessments (Madison County)

Contact Information:

Name: Mary Jo Lee, Executive Director
Address: Alternatives Incorporated of
Madison County
P.O. Box 1302
Anderson, IN 46015
Phone: (765) 643-0218

Short summary of the initiative:

Since July 1, 2000, the Madison County Office of Family and Children has been one of twelve local offices piloting the use of an assessment tool to identify and refer families affected by domestic violence. Local domestic violence service provider, Alternatives, Inc., has a staff person co-located in the Local Office to provide domestic violence services to those referred.

EARLY INTERVENTION

Healthy Families Indiana (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Phyllis Kikendall
Address: Division of Family and Children
Indiana Family and Social
Services Administration
402 W. Washington Street,
IGCS, W364
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 232-4770
Fax: (317) 232-4436
E-mail: pkikendall@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

Healthy Families Indiana is a voluntary home visitation program designed to promote healthy families and healthy children through a variety of services, including child development, access to health care and parent education. By working closely with hospital maternity wards, prenatal clinics and other local agencies, Healthy Families Indiana systematically identifies at-risk families that could benefit from education and support services either before or immediately after birth. Many of these at-risk families are also struggling with self-sufficiency issues. Healthy Families Indiana can help prevent the families' lack of resources from contributing to a child maltreatment problem by connecting them to appropriate community resources and service organizations.

Bona Vista - Early Head Start (Howard County)

Counties: Howard and Miami

Contact Information:

Name: Angel Daulton
Address: Bona Vista
P.O. Box 2496
Kokomo, IN 46904
Phone: (765) 457-8273
Web site: www.bonavista.org
Name: Julie Wells
Address: Bona Vista
105 S. Benton Street
Peru, IN 46970
Phone: (765) 473-6744

Short summary of the initiative:

Bona Vista – Early Head Start serves children ages birth to three and pregnant women with comprehensive services, which include family driven child development services; social services; nutrition, medical, dental and mental wellness services; and inclusive services for children with disabilities. Early Head Start has three different program options – Center Based (full-day, full-year, free child care for infants and toddlers of parents who are working or in school full-time); Home Based (weekly visits to the child's home); and Prenatal (home visits, support group meetings and birthing support for those who request it). In addition, Early Head Start provides parents with opportunities to socialize and build relationships and to learn more about child development, parenting, advocacy or any other topics they request. Early Head Start partners with other community agencies to enhance services for our community.

FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

Family Support (Hancock County)

Contact Information:

Name: Ruth Alewine, Hancock County
Office of Family and Children
Address: 120 W. McKenzie, Suite F
Greenfield, IN 46140
Phone: (317) 467-6360 ext. 230
Fax: (317) 467-6364
E-mail: ralewine@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

The Interlocal Association offers support and help in bringing families together to ensure a stable and positive family environment. Family Support activities include recreational and social family outings, family educational enrichment activities, and family supportive services (not an IMPACT supportive service) to allow children on assistance to participate in extra-curricular activities.

Launch Program (Street Joseph County)

Contact Information:

Name: LaTonia Newhouse, Family Development Supervisor
Address: REAL Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 1835
South Bend, IN 46634
Phone: (574) 233-8205 ext. 151
Fax: (574) 284-2642
E-mail: lnewhouse@realservicesinc.com

Short summary of the initiative:

The LAUNCH Program is a family development program that assists families that want to become financially self-sufficient, with support and services. The Family Development Consultant and the family work together to develop an individualized action plan that addresses issues that prevents the family from being self-sufficient. Initially the plan focuses on the family's basic needs. When basic needs are met, the plan is expanded to include education and/or job training goals, with financial self-sufficiency being the long-term goal. There is limited educational assistance available to the enrolled client. Several times a year, educational groups are offered on various topic aimed at enriching client with skills to assist them in living a more productive life. Annual celebration events are held recognizing achievements of parents and children. When financial self-sufficiency is achieved, the participant "graduates" from the program. The LAUNCH Program is funded by the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG).

SibsShop (Lawrence County)

Contact Information:

Name: Nancy Pace
Address: Lawrence County Office of Family and Children
918 16th Street
Bedford, IN 47421
Phone: (812) 279-9706
Fax: (812) 279-6950
E-mail: npace@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

The SibsShop is designed as a support network for children with siblings who have developmental challenges. There are group meetings with activities to help the children better understand the needs of others with challenges.

Transitions Case Management (Tippecanoe County)

Contact Information:

Name: Adrienne Glatz
Address: Area IV Agency
660 N. 36th Street
Lafayette, IN 47903
Phone: (765) 447-7683
Fax: (765) 447-6862
E-mail: aglatz@areaivagency.org

Short summary of the initiative:

Transitions Case Management provides in-home advocacy and support services to low-income families with the goal of helping those families achieve self-sufficiency. Family Development Consultants (FDC) visit eligible families an average of once per week to complete assessment tools (Family Development Questionnaire and Family Development Matrix). A Family Development Plan, outlining family goals and steps by which to achieve them, is adhered to in order for families to make progress towards greater self-sufficiency. FDCs help with community resources, provide needed advocacy, make necessary referrals, and give emotional and moral support. As families gain the necessary resources and natural supports for self-sufficiency to occur, they rely on the FDC less and less, thus signifying success for the program. Families may remain with Transitions up to three years.

HEALTH

Indiana RESPECT (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Andrea Wilkes
Address: Indiana State Department of Health, Maternal and Child Health Services
2 N. Meridian Street, Section 7-C
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 233-1246
Fax: (317) 233-1299
E-mail: awilkes@isdh.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

Indiana RESPECT, Indiana's adolescent pregnancy prevention initiative, uses Federal Sexual Abstinence Education Block Grant funds and State Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention funds to implement four components:

- Community Grant Program
- Community Grant Evaluation Process
- "Sex Can Wait: I'm Worth It" Multi-Media Campaign
- Technical Assistance/Training

Grantees provide sexual abstinence and adolescent pregnancy prevention education in a variety of settings including schools, health agencies, and community organizations.

The "Sex Can Wait: I'm Worth It" media campaign delivers teen sexual abstinence and pregnancy prevention messages with television and radio spots, billboards, posters, and printed materials. Parent-child discussions regarding sexuality, relationships, and values are encouraged with parent-targeted television, radio, and print ads that offer a "Need Help Talking" brochure available by calling 1-800-433-0746.

Healthy Pregnancy/Healthy Baby Campaign (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Gershon Gamor/ Elnora Lacey
Address: Indiana State Department of Health, Maternal and Child Health Services
2 N. Meridian Street, Section 7-C
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 233-1239/(317) 233-1278
Fax: (317) 233-1300
E-mail: ggamor@isdh.state.in.us/elacey@isdh.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

The Healthy Pregnancy/Healthy Baby Program provides free pregnancy tests to agencies that work with women of childbearing age to use as outreach. The goals of the program are: to assist women in obtaining early prenatal care and WIC enrollment (if pregnant), and Hoosier Healthwise; to encourage women to obtain their high school diploma or GED; to improve outcomes of pregnancy; and to assist communities to identify service gaps and plan future program.

Indiana Family Helpline (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Mary Bisbecos
Address: Indiana State Department of Health
2 N. Meridian Street, Suite 700
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: 1-800-433-0746
Fax: 317-233-8462
E-mail: mbisbecos@isdh.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

The Indiana Family Helpline is a Bilingual Comprehensive Information and Referral Service staffed by caring dedicated individuals who assist in promoting Maternal and Child Health, WIC programs, dental providers and various issues throughout the state. In addition, access Hoosier Healthwise providers, obtaining early prenatal and child health care, locating emergency housing, food, utility assistance, and placing callers in contact with literacy, vocational and GED programs, and much more. Other services include, but are not limited to, information referrals, follow-up, and advocacy assistance.

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Center (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Celanie Christensen
Address: Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics
975 W. Walnut Street IB 130
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Phone: (317) 274-3292
Fax: (317) 274-2387
E-mail: ckchrist@iupui.edu

Short summary of the initiative:

A Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Center was established at the Indiana University Medical Center in order to provide comprehensive specialty services to individuals with fetal alcohol syndrome. IU Medical Genetics established the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Diagnostic Clinic and collaborate extensively with the March of Dimes. This clinic is provided monthly at Riley Hospital.

Medical Services (DeKalb County)

Contact Information:

Name: Good Samaritan Center
Address: 800 S. Main Street
Auburn, IN 46706
Phone: (260) 458-1718
E-mail: gmp322@locl.net

Short summary of the initiative:

Good Samaritan Center has a doctor and dentist on staff to assist those who cannot afford medical care. The Office of Family and Children case manager makes referrals when appropriate.

Tri-Cap Teen Wellness Centers and Teen Hotline (Dubois County)

Contact Information:

Name: Audrey Fleck, MSW, Supervisor,
Adolescent program
Address: Tri-cap
607 Third Avenue
P.O. Box 729
Jasper, IN 47547-0729
Phone: (812) 482-2233
Fax: (812) 482-1071

Short summary of the initiative:

Dubois County school-based health and social work intervention program is aimed at reducing suicide, reducing teen pregnancy, and enhancing positive teen choices. All students served receive a risk assessment as well as referral to any needed services. Additional services can be provided to family members and school staff while working on student concerns. This program requires parental permission for all students to access the program. No birth control services are provided at school. Partnerships between the four school corporations and Tri-Cap have provided this additional service to teens needing assistance. RESPECT grant for healthy relationships development. Teen Hotline operates daily, from 4-12 midnight, with trained volunteers to provide a listening ear for teens and a referral to local services.

Prenatal Care and Enabling Services for Prenatal Clients and Infant Health (Grant County)

Contact Information:

Name: Family Service Society, Inc.
Address: 428 S. Washington Street, Suite 327
Marion, IN 46953
Phone: (765) 662-9971
Fax: (765) 651-6556
E-mail: famsvc@comteck.com

Short summary of the initiative:

This agency offers prenatal care coordination, education on the need for early prenatal care, prenatal care, post-natal home visits, smoking cessation programs, and a lactation educator for breastfeeding support.

The objective of the program is to increase first trimester care by reducing barriers, reduce low birth weight incidence, reduce the infant mortality rate, reduce the ratio of black infant mortality rate to white infant mortality rate, reduce the rate of neonatal deaths, reduce pregnancies among girls age 17 and younger, decrease smoking during pregnancy, increase breastfeeding and promote collaborative systems development in the establishment of a community-based network of health and related services for all target groups.

Central Life Awareness Support Services (C.L.A.S.S.) (Lake County)

Contact Information:

Name: Sharon Strbjak, RN
Address: Central High School
School City of East Chicago
210 E. Columbus Drive
East Chicago, IN 46312
Phone: (219)-391-4100 ext. 345
Fax: (219)-391-6323
E-mail: sstrbjak@ecps.org

Short summary of the initiative:

This program is a school-based health center designed to improve the health and well-being of students. The program serves as an advocate for the student recognizing his/her right to quality counseling, health care and referrals. Health care is provided to students who would otherwise receive very little or none. The students are educated to identify possible unrecognized or new health problems. This increases the likelihood of them receiving appropriate health care when needed and possibly eliminating the incidence of these health problems occurring. A prenatal program is offered once a week to all pregnant students. Abstinence is encouraged, but if a student does become pregnant the program wants to make sure a healthy baby is delivered. The center provides health education materials that are age-appropriate and follow-up on a regular basis.

The staff serves as a bridge to help students connect with more specialized areas such as medical care, mental health counseling, chemical dependency and treatment. Students requiring services more comprehensive than those available at C.L.A.S.S. will either be referred to their own physician or appropriate agencies for assistance.

Medicaid and Early Intervention Services (Lawrence County)

Contact Information:

Name: Community Health and
Wellness Center
Address: 2415 Mitchell Road
Bedford, IN 47421
Phone: (812) 279-6222
Fax: (812) 277-0418

Short summary of the initiative:

The Community Health and Wellness Center in Bedford serves as a Primary Medical Provider for children on Medicaid, and offers free pregnancy testing and counseling, prenatal care, and Healthy Families services. Families can also enroll in First Steps or Hoosier Healthwise at the hospital. The initiatives for children and adolescents living in low-income families are to reduce post-neonatal mortality, child mortality through comprehensive primary and preventive healthcare services and immunizations, and reduction of second-hand smoke. The initiatives for pregnant women are reduction of fetal and neonatal mortality through early identification of pregnancy, entry into prenatal care, nutrition counseling and WIC enrollment, prevention of pre-term labor, and tobacco and substance use cessation.

Hispanic Health Project (Marion County)

Contact Information:

Name: Maria Quiroz-Southwood
Address: Wishard Health Services/Hispanic
Health Project
1001 W. 10th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Phone: (317) 656-4264
Fax: (317) 554-4617
E-mail: quirozm@wishard.edu

Short summary of the initiative:

Provides information about services that the WHHP offers in Spanish to Hispanic patients who are monolingual in Spanish language. This initiative provides classes in the following: Spanish interpretations, prenatal care, family planning, teenage pregnancy prevention, and classes on the prevention of HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, domestic violence and child abuse. All bilingual services are offered at Wishard and one of its community health centers, Westside, which is located at 2732 West Michigan Street.

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Care Coordination (Ripley County)

Contact Information:

Name: Connie DeBurger, Director
Address: Family Connections
202 N. Gaslight Drive
Versailles, IN 47042
Phone: (812) 689-6363

Short summary of the initiative:

The Ripley County Family Services project has successfully blended multiple care coordination programs to provide family-centered services without gaps to families in Ripley County and five surrounding counties. Services include prenatal care coordination, family care coordination and Healthy Families. Staff is cross-trained to allow continuity of care as the family moves from one program to another. A new program, Pea Soup, will work to prevent substance abuse among pregnant women.

Maternal and Child Health (Saint Joseph County)

Contact Information:

Name: Norma Napoli, RN
Address: Healthy Family Center Family
Care Coordination
201 Lincolnway West
Mishawaka, IN 46544
Phone: (574) 254-2790
Fax: (574) 254-9521
E-mail: napolin@sjrmc.com

Short summary of the initiative:

The Prenatal Care Coordination and Family Care Coordination Services provide, through active Outreach/Public Education, immunizations through the Vaccines for Children Program, identification and enrollment of eligible pregnant women and children in Hoosier Healthwise, and the new Children's Health Insurance programs. The Healthy Family Center provides basic health services for prenatal, child health, adolescent, and women's health. The objectives are to reduce the overall infant mortality rate, reduce the ratio between black and white infant mortality, and to reduce the child death rate.

Prenatal Care Clinic (Vigo County)

Contact Information:

Name: Union Hospital
Address: 1606 N. 7th Street
Terre Haute, IN 47804
Phone: (812) 238-7000
E-mail: spring@uhhg.org

Short summary of the initiative:

The purpose of the clinic is to provide prenatal care to all women of the Wabash Valley area, regardless of financial status. Every client has the opportunity to receive the many services provided. Services available include, but are not limited to: free pregnancy testing, prenatal care, confidential counseling and testing for HIV and STD's, prenatal care coordination assessments, referrals, and follow-up, education on child birth, proper nutrition and weight gain, smoking cessation, breast feeding, and family planning.

Problems addressed at this clinic are infant mortality, disparity between white and black infant mortality, first trimester care, low-birth-weight infants, smoking among pregnant women, and breastfeeding at hospital discharge.

The Prenatal Substance Use Prevention Program (PSUPP) is also administered through this clinic. Education, referrals, and early intervention for substance use (alcohol, tobacco and drugs) during pregnancy are provided. The goal of PSUPP is to prevent birth defects, low birth weight, premature births, and other problems associated with prenatal substance use.

The clinic does cultural sensitivity training and has a focused participation in the Minority Health Coalition to address the unique needs of minorities.

Tri-Cap Family Health Services (Warrick County)

Counties: Dubois, Pike, Warrick, Spencer, Perry and Vanderburgh

Contact Information:

Name: Darla Reinbrecht, RN, Director
Family Health Services
Address: 499 West SR 62
Boonville, IN 47601
Phone: 812-897-5918
Fax: 812-897-0368

Short Summary of the Initiative:

Family Health Services include comprehensive Family Planning for males and females (exams, methods, STD tests); pregnancy testing, referral and follow-up; Prenatal Care Coordination Services (prenatal substance use screening, counseling and education); adolescent services (Dubois County only: Teen Wellness Centers and Teen Hotline); Preconception counseling and abstinence education; and Hoosier Healthwise enrollment.

Working Together

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HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

Southern Indiana Rural Development Project (SIRDP) (Regional)

Contact Information:

Name: Thayr Richey, Associate
Address: Southern Indiana Rural
Development Project
2901 N. Walnut
Bloomington, IN 47404
Phone: 1-800-816-0019 or (812) 331-1282
Fax: (812) 331-1285
E-mail: trichey@s-d-g.com

Short summary of the initiative:

The Southern Indiana Rural Development Project is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the rural counties of southern Indiana. SIRDP serves 34 counties located in the 8th and 9th congressional districts.

SIRDP relies on the expertise of local engineering firms to carry out many of its projects. They have partnered with civil and environmental engineering companies to work on Brownfields, wastewater infiltration and other projects.

SIRDP partnered with Cinergy/PSI Energy and the Indiana Housing Finance Authority to create Live the Dream...Own a Home, a homeownership education program and materials. Download a free copy of the manual by going to www.s-d-g.com/pubs/livdream.pdf or, to find out more about hosting a homeownership education class, contact SIRDP at 1-800-816-0019 for a free copy of the instructor's manual. User's manuals are also free to organizations using the Live the Dream...Own a Home program.

YWCA Self-Sufficiency Program (Allen County)

Contact Information:

Name: YWCA Self-Sufficiency Program
Address: 2000 N. Wells Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46808
Phone: (260) 424-4908 ext. 266

Short summary of the initiative:

YWCA Self-Sufficiency Program (SSP) is a two-year transitional housing program for women and women with children who are committed to taking vital steps towards achieving independence and self-reliance. Women enter the program understanding that furthering their education and/or building their careers will bring them to self-sufficiency. The SSP offers direct support services through case management, child care, and education and employment advocacy.

Revolving Loan Fund - Small Business Loan (Fountain County)

Counties: Benton, Fountain, Montgomery, Parke, Vermillion and Warren

Contact Information:

Name: Randy Burnette
Address: Community Action Program, Inc. of
Western Indiana
P.O. Box 188
418 Washington Street
Covington, IN 47932
Phone: (765) 793-4881
Fax: (765) 793-4884
E-mail: RBurnette@capwi.org

Short summary of the initiative:

The primary goal of the revolving loan fund is to address the financial and organizational needs of existing business expansion or start-up. CAP's philosophy is that the provision of capital to small businesses promotes local economic growth and stimulates employment opportunities. Participants are required to complete a credit report, a business plan summary and a cash flow statement, and financial projections. Completed applications package is reviewed for approval by a loan review board. All loans are secured up to the value of the loan. A monthly payment schedule is issued and loan documents are signed. Staff remain available for counseling for term of the loan.

Community Connections (Huntington County)

Counties: Adams, Allen (rural area only), DeKalb, Huntington, Jay, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Marshall, Noble, Starke, Steuben, Wabash, Wells and Whitley

Contact Information:

Name: Community Connections
Address: 1316 Flaxmill Road
Huntington, IN 46750
Phone: (260) 356-0521/1-800-310-9510
E-mail: cc@pathfinderservices.org
Web site: www.cchomes.org

Short summary of the initiative:

Community Connections, established in 1997, offers home ownership counseling and financial assistance to 14 counties in northeast Indiana. To qualify the family's, annual income and size are considered. Participants receive information on budgeting, shopping for a home, life as a homeowner and obtaining and closing a mortgage. They have a better understanding about equity and building responsibility. If needed, individual counseling is given to resolve credit issues. After the training has been completed, additional services are arranged to help secure grants that reduce the price of the home and the monthly payment.

Working Together

To Help Working Families

Good News Ministries (Marion County)

Contact Information:

Name: Dan Evans, Executive Director
 Address: Good News Ministries
 Director of Family Shelter
 2716 E.Washington Street
 Indianapolis, IN 46206
 (317) 638-2862
 Phone: (317) 638-2862
 Name: Rev. Sherwin Day,
 Address: 2801 E.Washington Street
 Indianapolis, IN 46201
 (317) 638-7061
 E-mail: smday@on-net.net

Short summary of the initiative:

Good News Ministries, a Baptist organization, includes a Men's Rescue Mission, Family Shelter, Youth Center and Health Clinic. The Men's Rescue Mission provides shelter for about 100 homeless men, alcohol and drug intervention, educational services and job skill training. The Youth Center provides a safe place and a meal for up to 70 youth after school hours and during vacations, with recreational activities, study time, a computer lab, special trips and family fun nights. The Family Shelter Program teaches life skills and provides structure to the lives of the residents (in a ten-unit apartment building). The Health Clinic provides free health services for the neighborhood.

The Rescue Mission partners with local churches to minister to the homeless men, provide transportation to services and identify volunteers for the teach at the youth center, or mentor men from the rescue mission or families in the Family Shelter Program. Local companies provide in-kind services, volunteers and employment opportunities for residents.

Housing and Community Development (Marion County)

Contact Information:

Name: Beatrice Courtney
 Address: Indianapolis Neighborhood
 Housing Partnership
 3550 N.Washington Boulevard
 Indianapolis, IN 46205
 (317) 610-4651
 Fax: (317) 610-4677
 E-mail: bcorp@inhp.org

Short summary of the initiative:

The Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership (INHP) provides mortgage pre-qualification and lender referral assistance, home buying education training, and credit repair counseling. In addition, through our community outreach efforts, we conduct and/or participate in a variety of events to enhance the awareness of affordable housing opportunities. INHP services are offered in English and Spanish.

It is the mission of the Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership to provide safe, decent and affordable housing opportunities and to create healthy viable neighborhoods. INHP will do this by securing, coordinating and leveraging financial, human, and organizational resources (1) to promote homeownership, (2) to promote the construction and maintenance of low-to-moderate income housing (owner-occupied and rental), and (3) to support commercial and other complementary neighborhood development activities.

INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS

Promotion of IDA's (Posey County)

Contact Information:

Name: Mary Phillips, Supervisor
 Address: 1809 Main Street
 P.O. Box 568
 Mt.Vernon, IN 47620
 Phone: (812) 838-4429

Short summary of the initiative:

The Posey County Office of Family and Children contacted with their IMPACT provider to educate clients about, and encourage them to participate in, an Individual Development Account. The payment point for the contractor is not achieved until the client has contributed to their account for a minimum of six months.

Working Together

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INTENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT

Overcoming Barriers for Hard-to-Serve Clients (Boone County)

Contact Information:

Name: Boone County Office of Family
 and Children
 Address: P.O. Box 548
 953 Monument Drive
 Lebanon, IN 46052
 Phone: (765) 482-3023

Short summary of the initiative:

The Boone County Office of Family and Children contracts for IMPACT services that include substance abuse workshops, parenting, household maintenance, and time and stress management with a home-based component. These services allow the client to participate in activities that resolve problems related to maintaining a job.

Case Management for the Hard-to-Serve (Dearborn County)

Contact Information:

Name: Dearborn County Office of Family
 and Children
 Address: 230 Mary Avenue, Suite 150
 Lawrenceburg, IN 47025
 Phone: (812) 537-5131

Short summary of the initiative:

The Dearborn County contracted IMPACT provider offers up to 90 days of intensive case management for hard to serve clients including up to 30 days for non-compliant individuals. Services include weekly meetings, home visits, weekly contact calls, Family Matrix assessments, tutoring (for GED-eligible clients) and referrals to community resources.

Home Visits (Marshall County)

Contact Information:

Name: Marshall County Office of Family
 and Children
 Address: P.O. Box 539
 1850 Walter Glaub Drive
 Plymouth, IN 46563
 Phone: (574) 935-4046

Short summary of the initiative:

The contracted service provider is making home visits in an attempt to engage participants who do not appear for appointments prior to sending a non-compliance letter. This seems to put participants who may be uncomfortable, or fearful or working with the provider, at ease.

Licensed Psychologist at Office of Family and Children (Owen County)

Contact Information:

Name: Changes Life Services
 Address: P.O. Box 453
 Spencer, IN 47460
 Phone: (812) 829-0095

Short summary of the initiative:

The Owen County Office of Family and Children contracted with a licensed psychologist to provide case management services for those clients who need intensive case management with issues surrounding job readiness and retention.

Home Visits and Provider Coordination (Porter County)

Contact Information:

Name: Jon Rutkowski, Director
 Address: Porter County Office of Family
 and Children
 152 Indiana
 Valparaiso, IN 46383
 Phone: (219) 462-2112

Short summary of the initiative:

OFC case managers make home visits to IMPACT participants who have been sanctioned, sometimes with the contracted service provider, in an attempt to interest them in complying with IMPACT and utilizing IMPACT's services. The case managers also meet with the participant and the service provider to develop the Self-Sufficiency Plan at the provider site, indicating the case manager's interest and involvement to the participant. Barriers that arise are dealt with quickly in order to avoid any lag in the participant's progress.

Work First with Ongoing Support and Advancement (Pulaski County)

Contact Information:

Name: Pulaski County Office of Family and Children
Address: 614 W. 11th Street
Winamac, IN 46996
Phone: (574) 946-3312

Short summary of the initiative:

IMPACT participants with multiple barriers and low skill levels are encouraged to begin with entry-level jobs and work toward longevity and promotions to upgrade their wages. When possible, skills learned on the job can be translated into higher paying jobs. This takes weekly contact with the participants, mentoring them and resolving barriers as they appear.

Comprehensive Home-Based Services (Shelby County)

Contact Information:

Name: Shelby County Office of the Division of Family and Children
Address: 2565 Parkway Drive, Suite 2
Shelbyville, IN 46176
Phone: (317) 392-5040
Fax: (317) 392-5047

Short summary of the initiative:

Comprehensive Home-Based Services teams the client with a case manager from the Office of Family and Children and a contracted case manager from George Consulting to overcome the client's individual barriers to employment. The program encompasses any service deemed necessary in assisting the client, and includes one-on-one counseling and home visits.

Faith-Based Counseling (Whitley County)

Contact Information:

Name: Whitley County Office of Family and Children
Address: 115 S. Line Street
Columbia City, IN 46725
Phone: (260) 244-6331

Short summary of the initiative:

IMPACT participants have the option of faith-based counseling through "Somebody Cares."

JOB TRAINING & PLACEMENT

Advance Indiana (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Brett Wineinger
Address: Indiana Department of Workforce Development
10 N. Senate Avenue, SE202
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 233-5514
Fax: (317) 233-6128
E-mail: bwineinger@dwd.state.in.us
Web site: www.in.gov/skills2016

Short summary of the initiative:

Advance Indiana is Indiana Department of Workforce Development's job training initiative that augments the \$1 billion that Indiana companies spend annually to develop the skills of their workers. Advance Indiana grants, awarded directly to companies or Workforce Investment Boards, must be used to train workers who are currently employed, and the training must result in portable credentials. Portable credentials represent the proficiency of a worker in transferable skills—skills that are valuable to an employee for job growth and career advancement. These credentials include apprentice status, college degree, and widely recognized certifications.

U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Bureau of Apprenticeship (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Greg Collins
Address: U.S. Department of Labor,
Bureau of Apprenticeship
5420 W. Southern Avenue, Suite 200
Indianapolis, IN 46241
Phone: (317) 226-7001

Short summary of the initiative:

The U.S. DOL Bureau of Apprenticeship offers apprenticeship programs in the building trades, child care, manufacturing and other service occupations in the private sector. Wages begin at approximately 50% of the fully trained journeyman rate and usually increase every six months. Affiliated companies include Allison, White River Environmental Partnership, Indianapolis Power and Light and IUPUI.

Dress for Success Program (Allen County)

Contact Information:

Name: Cassandra Cramer
Address: 3901 S. Wayne Avenue
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46807
Phone: (260) 745-2977

Short summary of the initiative:

The Dress for Success Program in Fort Wayne provides professional clothing and job retention support to low-income women to increase their employment potential and contribute to their economic independence. These services are provided at no charge and by referral only to clients who are actively seeking employment (the Office of Family and Children case manager must make a referral for an IMPACT client). The clients are assisted by volunteer personal shoppers and, most importantly, are treated with dignity and respect. Each client receives one suit when she has an interview and up to two more occupation-appropriate outfits when she gets the job. Clients are never charged a fee for services or clothing and often are treated to a before and after picture. Accessories are also provided in a boutique-like setting, which adds to the personal touch.

Work Model (Benton County)

Contact Information:

Name: David Kurth
Address: Community Action Program
105 E. Smith Street
Oxford, IN 47971
Phone: (765) 385-0623

Short summary of the initiative:

The Benton County Office of Family and Children case managers and contracted service provider work with local employers to engage clients in a 4-week "work model." The program is similar to a Community Work Experience Program; however, the clients are paid while they develop good work habits and acquire a work history.

Job Postings (Carroll County)

Contact Information:

Name: Nicole Lovvorn
Address: Carroll County Office of Family and Children
P.O. Box 276
6931 W. 300 N.
Delphi, IN 46923
Phone: (765) 564-2409, ext. 210

Short summary of the initiative:

The Carroll County Office of Family and Children maintains a bulletin board in the lobby of current job listings. The staff check several web sites weekly and post employment opportunities in the area, concentrating on large employers. The State Job Bank is also available to people in the lobby.

Coordination and Efficiency Improvements (Cass County)

Contact Information:

Name: Sally Bechdol
Address: Cass County Office of Family and Children
1714 Dividend Drive
Logansport, IN 46947
Phone: (574) 722-3677
Fax: (574) 753-9492

Short summary of the initiative:

The Cass County Office of Family and Children (OFC) offers group assessments to give an overview of IMPACT and answer questions. Participants also begin the assessment process at this time, saving considerable time for the case manager and allowing for more than one meeting with the client during the assessment and plan development process.

OFC staff also meet regularly with contracted service providers to share information about participants and jointly plan for families.

Working Together

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Job Readiness and Placement Services (Clinton County)

Contact Information:

Name: Randy Rogers
Address: Clinton County Office of Family and Children
57 N. Jackson Street
Frankfort, IN 46041
Phone: (765) 654-8571

Short summary of the initiative:

The Clinton County Office of Family and Children contracts with Abilities Services, Inc. (ASI) to provide IMPACT services to TANF and Food Stamp clients, including Job Readiness, Job Search, Work Model and Community Work Experience Program (CWEP). ASI works with OFC case managers in assisting clients obtain and retain employment. The Clinton County IMPACT staff and ASI have developed a Work Model that is very successful. Referred IMPACT clients spend 20 hours per week for two weeks with one ASI staff member to learn about the person's interests, background and abilities. During this time, they work together on job skills and resume development. ASI has coordinated the Work Model with employers in Clinton County, which provide paid employment for four weeks following the two-week readiness period. Fifty-percent of the clients are hired by the employer at the end of four weeks. Other IMPACT participants use their work experience on their resumes to find subsequent employment.

Interview Skills (Crawford County)

Contact Information:

Name: Beth Wilson
Address: 304 Indiana Avenue
English, IN 47118
Phone: (812) 338-4980

Short summary of the initiative:

Blue River Employment Services, a Crawford County IMPACT provider, has utilized Curtis and Associate job interview skills videotaping for client assessment. They have experienced positive feedback from clients in identifying appropriate and inappropriate interviewing techniques.

Community Work Experience Program (CWEP) (Crawford County)

Contact Information:

Name: Carol Preflatish or Sharon Mitchell
Address: Crawford County Office of Family and Children
P.O. Box 129
English, IN 47118
Phone: (812) 338-2320

Short summary of the initiative:

Community Work Experience is being offered at several sites and will be expanded in the future.

Soup of Success Skills Training Program (Elkhart County)

Contact Information:

Name: Betsy Ayrea, Program Director
Address: 629 S. Third Street
Elkhart, IN 46516-3241
Phone: (574) 523-1551
Web site: www.soupofsuccess.com

Short summary of the initiative:

The Soup of Success Job and Life Skills Training Program was established in 1997 and is a best practice example for women who are living in poverty in Elkhart Co. The program provides an opportunity for women to prepare for employment by developing or enhancing marketable work, life and social skills. Women pursue self-sufficiency through training, education and support. This program is designed to be a stepping-stone to an improved quality of life. It is a three-month program offered three times per year with 12 women in each session. Program participants create, package and market candles and gourmet soup, cookie, dip and dressing mixes. When not producing or selling the products, participants attend in-house workshops on interviewing, computer skills, resume writing or they are in support groups addressing budgeting, conflict management, assertiveness, education, nutrition, time management and goal setting. The women build self-esteem, develop a sense of pride in their work accomplishments and gain skills to prepare for future employment. Volunteers are critical to the success of the program.

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Community Work Experience Program (CWEP) (Fulton County)

Contact Information:

Name: Fulton County Office of Family and Children
Address: 1920 Rhodes Street
Rochester, IN 46975
Phone: (574) 223-3413

Short summary of the initiative:

The contracted service provider agreed to be responsible for liability insurance for the participants in CWEP. This increases the number of CWEP placements that could be made.

Community Work Experience Program (CWEP) (Gibson County)

Contact Information:

Name: Dennis Perkins
Address: 321 S. Fifth Avenue
Princeton, IN 47670
Phone: (812) 385-4727

Short summary of the initiative:

The Gibson County Office of Family and Children has had some success with CWEP's, in cooperation with the local WorkOne office. Clients have developed their office and job skills because WorkOne has made the clients a part of their paid training program. The clients are paid while they develop their office skills and, at the same time, the clients are developing a good work reference.

Employment Consultation (Henry County)

Contact Information:

Name: East Central Opportunities
Address: Employment and Training Services
1416 Broad Street, Suite 125
New Castle, IN 47362
Phone: (765) 529-3010
E-mail: henry@ecoinc.org

Short summary of the initiative:

East Central Opportunities, a Henry County IMPACT provider, assists the client one-on-one in developing skills that are identified in workshops as barriers to employment. Examples of these skills include computer literacy, resume writing, communication, balancing work and home life, interviewing and career guidance.

Advanced Skills Training (Jay County)

Contact Information:

Name: Jay County Office of Family and Children
Address: 1237 W. Votaw Street, SR 67
Portland, IN 47371
Phone: (260) 726-7933

Short summary of the initiative:

This community-supported program provides advanced, transferable job training to workers to allow them to increase their job skills and wages while simultaneously earning income. The program provides a guaranteed wage increase as each level of training is completed. While it was initially funded by IMPACT, it is now community supported and maintained and will be expanding from machine trades training to other identified skills needed within the community.

Marriott Pathways (Marion County)

Contact Information:

Name: Mary Cox
Address: IMPACT Program
6154 E. 46th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46226
Phone: (317) 568-3987, ext. 274
E-mail: mcox2@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

Located at the Indianapolis Marriott downtown, Marriott Pathways to Independence participants work 30 hours a week for six weeks at the minimum wage of \$5.15 per hour and may receive public assistance. They get 60 hours of classroom instruction and 120 hours of on-the-job training. The program accommodates individuals with disabilities and those who have little or no work experience. After graduation, Marriott hires the graduates full-time at \$7 to \$10 per hour.

Working Together

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Clarian Health/Education Center (Marion County)

Contact Information:

Name: Diane Moss-Wilson
Address: Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana
1635 W. Michigan Street
Indianapolis, IN 46222
Phone: (317) 962-6872
E-mail: dmoss2@clarian.org

Short summary of the initiative:

Located on the Methodist campus, Clarian Health and Education Center's theme is, "GET IN. GET OUT. GET PAID." There are many training programs provided, as well as job opportunities available. These programs include Clerical Skills, Certified Nursing Assistant, Medical Assistant, Pharmacy Technician and Surgical Technologist.

TechSMART (Marion County)

Contact Information:

Name: Carolyn Brown
Address: Indianapolis Private Industry Council
151 N. Delaware Street, Suite 1600
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 639-4441

Short summary of the initiative:

This is a pilot program involving the City of Indianapolis, the State of Indiana and the Indianapolis Private Industry Council. Graduates of this training program will receive two basic certificates (A+ and N+) and will be eligible for placement in jobs with a minimum starting salary of \$26,000. All candidates must be willing to commit to six months of intensive training.

Indiana Plan for Equal Employment (Marion County)

Contact Information:

Name: Indiana Plan for Equal Employment
Address: 445 N. Pennsylvania Street, Suite 610
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 639-4661/(800) 664-6680
Fax: (317) 639-0982
E-mail: indyplan@aol.com

Short summary of the initiative:

The Indiana Plan for Equal Employment offers pre-apprenticeship training for unemployed persons 18-35 years of age in electrical work, plumbing, carpentry, painting, bricklaying, steel fabrication and heavy equipment operation. Orientation is provided weekly.

Noble of Indiana (Marion County)

Contact Information:

Name: Noble of Indiana
Address: 7701 21st Street
Indianapolis, IN 46219
Phone: (317) 375-2700
Web site: www.nobleofindiana.org

Short summary of initiative:

Noble of Indiana is a nonprofit organization that provides a variety of services and supports to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. These include early intervention therapies for infants and toddlers with or at risk of developmental delay; parent education and support; respite care; supported employment, vocational and developmental training for adults with disabilities; and school-to-work transition services for students in special education. Services are provided within community settings as well as from several locations in the greater Indianapolis area.

Interfaith Hospitality Network (Marion County)

Contact Information:

Name: Darnae Scales, Program Director
Address: Interfaith Hospitality Network
520 E. 12th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Phone: (317) 261-1562/(317) 261-1563
Fax: (317) 261-6308
E-mail: ihndarnae@aol.com

Short summary of the initiative:

The Interfaith Hospitality Network is a unique ecumenical and interfaith social ministry, established to sustain a community-wide effort to provide temporary shelter, meals and supportive assistance to homeless families. Approximately 1,600 individuals with the support of their church and assemblies have shared the commitment to faith through this program. The day facility is staffed by the Director, a Case Manager Coordinator, and two weekend staff who assist families in becoming self-sufficient through case management, program development, educational and employment services, and referrals.

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Second Helpings Job Training (Marion County)

Contact Information:

Name: Second Helpings
Address: 3324 E. Michigan Street, Suite 150
Indianapolis, IN 46201
Phone: (317) 632-2664
E-mail: staff@secondhelpings.org
Web site: www.secondhelpings.org

Short summary of initiative:

Second Helpings collects over prepared and surplus food product from local food service entities to use in culinary training and hunger relief efforts. The program offers an 10-week culinary job-training program for the unemployed or underemployed. Cooking techniques, serving, food sanitation, nutrition, math skills and personal skill building are taught. Students must be at least 18 years of age and able to read at an 8th grade level, be drug free or enrolled in a treatment program. Students receive placement assistance upon completion of the program.

Work Model (Montgomery County)

Contact Information:

Name: Robert M. Taylor,
Director of Employment and Training
Community Action Program, Inc. of
Western Indiana
Address: P.O. Box 188
418 Washington Street
Covington, IN 47932
Phone: (765) 793-4881
Fax: (765) 793-4884
E-mail: rtaylor@ccsdana.net

Short summary of the initiative:

CAP uses a Work Model concept, which moves job training out of the classroom and onto the job site. IMPACT participants work in a paid, public sector job complemented by intensive Case Management and Job Keeping, Coping and Retention training. The Work Model provides the participant with an opportunity to develop and demonstrate acceptable work habits prior to placement in private sector employment.

Career Development Software Program (Ohio County)

Contact Information:

Name: Ohio County Office of Family
and Children
Address: P.O. Box 196
125 N. Walnut
Rising Sun, IN 47040
Phone: (812) 438-2530

Short summary of the initiative:

The Ohio County Office of Family and Children (OFC) has invested in career development software that is made available to clients in the OFC. This allows the client to research career choices, learn job skills and learn computer software applications.

Job Fair (Parke County)

Contact Information:

Name: Carol Swick
Address: 116 W. Ohio
Rockville, IN 47872
Phone: (765) 569-3156

Short summary of the initiative:

Parke County IMPACT staff and Western Indiana Employment and Training Services collaborate to host an annual Job Fair at the county fairgrounds for local businesses, employers, military recruiters and others to present information about their place of employment and to take applications for vacant positions. Every IMPACT-referred client is notified and encouraged to attend. A great deal of free and informative information is also distributed.

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CWEP and Coordinated Employment Services (Perry County)

Contact Information:

Name: Mary Hess, Family Case Coordinator
Address: Perry County Office of Family and Children
316 E. Hwy 66
Tell City, IN 47551
Phone: (812) 547-7055

Short summary of the initiative:

Blue River Employment Services, the Perry County IMPACT contractor for 2002, has approximately twelve active CWEP sites and believe this will contribute to high participation rates. Several clients who have started in CWEP have been placed in permanent positions. The Office of Family and Children (OFC) case managers initially develop the Self-Sufficiency Plan with the client and set future expectations, as well as posting job openings, new advertisements, the job bank and general employment information in the OFC lobby and at locations throughout the community. Staffing Advantage, a temporary employment service, faxes a listing of job openings to the OFC, as well as information about applying for the positions. The service generally offers higher paying jobs than many other sources and has made several placements in coordination with the OFC.

Consolidated Resources for IMPACT Participants (Starke County)

Contact Information:

Name: Starke County Office of Family and Children
Address: 318 E. Culver Road
Knox, IN 46534
Phone: (574) 772-3411

Short summary of the initiative:

After assessment interviews, IMPACT participants are given a folder containing information about GED, IMPACT and other community resources. The folder also contains a calendar, job tips, employer contact sheets and listings, the case manager's business card, etc. The participants are to keep their Self-Sufficiency Plans and amendments in the folder and carry this folder to all IMPACT-related appointments. Participants are encouraged to make notes in the folder, add to it and track their progress in it.

On-Site Service Provider Staff at OFC (Tipton County)

Contact Information:

Name: Amy Girt
Address: Carey Services
202 S. West Street
Tipton, IN 46072-1848
Phone: (765) 675-7441

Short summary of the initiative:

The Tipton County Office of Family and Children (OFC) contracts with Carey Services to provide case management, mentoring, job readiness and job retention services to IMPACT clients. The provider has a staff person on-site in the OFC to meet with clients and provide services as soon as possible.

LIFE SKILLS

Consumer and Family Sciences Extension (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: April Mason, Associate Dean for Extension and Assistant Director of Cooperative Extension Service
Address: Consumer and Family Sciences Extension Program
1260 Stone Hall
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1260
Phone: (765) 494-8252
Fax: (765) 496-1947
E-mail: masona@cfs.purdue.edu

Short summary of the initiative:

Consumer and Family Sciences Extension provides informal educational programs that increase knowledge, influence attitudes, teach skills, and inspire aspirations. Through the adoption and application of these practices, the quality of individual, family, and community life is improved. Consumer and Family Sciences Extension is a part of the mission of the School of Consumer and Family Sciences at Purdue University and the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service.

Consumer and Family Sciences Extension brings staff and volunteer expertise together to address the needs and priority issues facing Indiana's families. Five specific objectives are addressed. To achieve our mission, the Extension Consumer and Family Sciences program area will:

- Provide education from numerous disciplines addressing societal issues of concern to individuals and families;
- Assist communities in analyzing the status of families and identifying appropriate community action to meet the needs of families;
- Train volunteers and paraprofessionals to assist the Extension Consumer and Family Sciences program;
- Motivate people to become involved in community issues and development of leadership potential in those people; and
- Collaborate with other Extension program areas, and form partnerships with other agencies, community organizations, and educational groups.

For more information, visit the Purdue University Extension web site at <http://www.cfs.purdue.edu/extension/>

Human Development Extension (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Judith A. Myers-Walls, Ph.D.
Human Development Extension Specialist
Department of Child Development and Family Studies
Address: Human Development Extension
219 Fowler House
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1269
Phone: (765) 494-2959
Fax: (765) 496-0503
E-mail: myerswal@cfs.purdue.edu

Short summary of the initiative:

The mission of the Human Development specialty is to maximize the psychological well-being and development of Indiana residents. Programs are designed to enhance existing strengths, expand knowledge, and develop skills, thereby preventing future problems. In addition, educational experiences are offered to other human service providers who directly intervene and treat individuals and families. For more information, visit the Purdue University Extension web site at http://www.cfs.purdue.edu/extension/html/hd_home.htm

Credit Counseling/Budgeting (Adams County)

Contact Information:

Name: Nathan Emery
Executive Director
Address: LOVE, Inc.
P.O. Box 932
Decatur, IN 46733
Phone: (260) 728-4503

Short summary of the initiative:

Participants are asked to attend two, 9-week sessions. During the first session, a budget advisor works with the participant to identify credit problems, works with creditors for payment plans and helps the participant schedule and makes payments. During the second nine weeks, the participant learns budgeting skills and savings techniques. There is an option for a third nine weeks during which time life skills are added. Those include shopping techniques, consumer issues and parenting skills.

Human Services, Inc. Life Skills Program (Bartholomew County)

Contact Information:

Name: Carol, Director of Independent Living
Address: Human Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 588
Columbus, IN 47202-0588
Phone: (812) 372-8407
Fax: (812) 378-7490
E-mail: chunsucker@hsi-indiana.com

Short summary of the initiative:

Human Services, Inc. (HSI) created a friendly and informal setting for families to learn life skills on a variety of topics including budgeting, housing counseling, social skills, nutrition and parenting. The facility, open to the public at no cost, includes a family living area, classroom setting, and a fully equipped kitchen. In addition, a small room is set aside for the care of children while their parents attend the seminars. A calendar of classes and activities is printed and distributed throughout the county monthly. Professional presenters are recruited as volunteers. HSI continues to collaborate with the Salvation Army, Turning Point, and the Columbus Housing Authority to provide classes for families who are homeless or who are in danger of becoming homeless. All classes and activities of the center are designed to help families gain greater control over their lives and encourage self-sufficiency.

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Out of Poverty (Daviness County)

Counties: Martin, Knox, Pike and Daviess

Contact Information:

Name: Mark Hunter
Address: Four Rivers Resource Services
2212 E. National Hwy
Washington, IN 47501
Phone: (812) 254-4471
Fax: (812) 254-4633
E-mail: markh@frs.org

Short summary of the initiative:

Out of Poverty is a program of personal change. It is intended for individuals whose lives are habituated and sustained in poverty. It affirms that change is possible and utilizes group process to facilitate personal transformation. The program guides the person through a series of 12 lessons that stress self-management, work relevant value, and self-determination. Out of Poverty is a program designed to break the cycle of poverty and help people build a more prosperous life. The program has a spiritual dimension and is based on a 12-Step Model.

Basic Skills Academy (Decatur County)

Contact Information:

Name: Bev Phillips, Basic Skills Academy Coordinator
Address: 1025 Freeland Road
Greensburg, IN 47240
Phone: (812) 663-8597
Fax: (812) 662-6205
E-mail: bev@worksights.com

Short summary of the initiative:

The Basic Skills Academy is an employer and community partnership to help clients learn the basics for surviving in today's society. Workshops teach clients budgeting and finance, basic insurance information, how to secure transportation and child care, personal appearance, job search and interview techniques and resume assistance. Community members volunteer as mentors to help guide the clients once they have completed the classes and also give the clients a community-based resource in their search for employment.

Consumer Credit Counseling (Fountain County)

Counties: Benton, Fountain, Montgomery, Parke, Vermillion and Warren

Contact Information:

Name: Anita Hubbert
Address: Community Action Program, Inc. of Western Indiana
P.O. Box 188
Covington, IN 47932
Phone: (765) 793-4881
Fax: (765) 793-4884

Short summary of the initiative:

This debt management program offers counseling services designed to help consumers handle money more effectively. Counselors work with clients and creditors to set up a money management plan and repayment plan.

Survival Skills for Women (Hamilton County)

Contact Information:

Name: Karen Beaumont, Director, Hamilton County Office of Family and Children
Address: 938 N. 10th Street
Noblesville, IN 46060
Phone: (317) 773-2183
Fax: (317) 776-3078
E-mail: kbeaumont@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

A national program, *Survival Skills for Women*, is being sponsored through the Good Samaritans of Hamilton County organization. Registration costs for township residents is free and other county residents pay a minimal fee. The program is a series of 10 three-hour workshops that teach basic day-to-day life skills. These skills prepare women to better manage their household, money, health, and the behavior and education of their children. A dinner and graduation is held at the end of the class. Efforts are underway to expand this program throughout the country. The national web site for this program is www.ssed.org.

Working Together

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Income Assistance (Porter County)

Contact Information:

Name: Porter County Office of Family and Children
Address: 152 Indiana Avenue
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: (219) 462-2112

Short summary of initiative:

The Porter County Office of Family and Children (OFC) includes information about the Earned Income Tax Credit at the first contact with the office, the client's Early Evaluation Interview. Case managers use a "Budgeting Worksheet" to assist families that have found employment allowing the family to visualize income versus expenses and discover what it will take to become self-sufficient. This has proven to be a motivator in many circumstances.

IMPACT Basic Skills Workshops (Saint Joseph County)

Contact Information:

Name: Saint Joseph County Office of Family and Children
Address: 401 E. Colfax Avenue, Suite 116
South Bend, IN 46617
Phone: (574) 236-5300

Short summary of the initiative:

Workshops run by Office of Family and Children case managers are in the planning stages. The workshops will address practical issues that working families encounter, including budgeting, food shopping, transportation and child care back-up plans, and job retention issues. Successfully employed former participants would be occasional guest speakers to encourage current participants.

Family Self-Sufficiency Program (Vigo County)

Contact Information:

Name: Mary Ann Clark
Address: Terre Haute Housing Authority
P.O. Box 3086
Terre Haute, IN 47803-0086
Phone: (812) 232-1381, ext. 323
Fax: (812) 234-3918
E-mail: thhamaclark@hotmail.com

Short summary of the initiative:

The Terre Haute Housing Authority assists low-income families through a Family Self-Sufficiency Program. Their goal is to support low-income families in overcoming social and economic barriers by addressing any needs they might have. Providing housing is only one of the services available. Mental health, drug and alcohol dependency, family relationship problems, self-esteem issues, and attitude problems are addressed. In addition, credit, budgeting, housekeeping, home management, child discipline, healthy life choices, and educational services, including on-site GED instruction, are available at their facilities. The agency has two buildings equipped with classrooms and on-site child care centers. They provide van transportation when needed. The center also serves as a WorkOne Express Office for the area Workforce Investment Board.

One of the most successful services is a class entitled "Take Charge!" with instructor Denver Hudson. The class emphasizes goal-setting and achieving outcomes. The course focuses on behavior in the workplace and job retention.

Ladies Day Out (Wells County)

Contact Information:

Name: Stephanie Penrod
Address: JobWorks
3156 E. U.S. 124
Bluffton, IN 46714
Phone: (260) 824-0855
E-mail: spenrod@jobworksinc.org

Short summary of the initiative:

JobWorks is providing a one-day "Ladies Day Out" for female job search clients. The morning consists of informational sessions on women's health issues, budgeting, etc. The afternoon is a pampering session, which includes haircuts and a makeover. These services are donated by various area businesses.

Working Together

To Help Working Families

MENTORING

Faith-Based Initiative (Allen County)

Contact Information:

Name: Stan Veit
Address: Lutheran Social Services of Indiana
3326 S. Calhoun Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46807
Phone: (260) 745-3388
Fax: (260) 745-2092

Short summary of the initiative:

The featured program is entitled faith-based initiative, and is provided jointly by the East Wayne Street Center, Lutheran Social Services of Indiana, Catholic Charities, the Allen County Faith-Based Community and the Allen County Division of Family and Children. The mission of the *Initiative* is to advocate, educate and assist on the behalf of those in the community who need help in addressing barriers to full functioning and inclusion in the community. By helping people overcome poverty and become less dependent on the social welfare system and other outside sources of income and support, a sense of healthy interdependence within the community has been established. Additionally, the *Initiative* has helped people learn skills and values necessary to effectively fulfill their goals and individual potential.

Faith Based Initiative is structured by matching a team of three to four volunteer mentors with one family, thereby creating a team. The team is supported by a professional case manager. Each team is expected to have a minimum one-time-per-week contact. The group volunteer approach is encouraged, as opposed to a one-to-one match, because the group approach provides peer support when demands are great or individual team members have other competing commitments.

Faith-Based Mentoring Program (Elkhart County)

Contact Information:

Name: Tony Sommer
Address: Elkhart Office of Family and Children
347 W. Lusher Avenue
Elkhart, IN 46516
Phone: (574) 296-5303
Fax: (574) 522-6941
E-mail: tsommer@fssa.state.in.us

Name: Doug Beutler
Address: Lifeline Youth and Family Services
2211 S. Calhoun Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46851-0328
Phone: (260) 745-3322
Fax: (260) 745-0234

Short summary of the initiative:

Lifeline, a faith-based organization, is establishing a mentoring program through the local churches in the Elkhart area. The mentors will be volunteers from several area churches to assist our clients in their transition to self-sufficiency. They will work with the clients from the outset of their program to work with individuals in overcoming barriers. Lifeline will also establish a mentor training program to better prepare the volunteer mentors prior to them assisting our clients.

Customized Job Coaching and Support (Fayette County)

Contact Information:

Name: Shyrl Purcell
Address: 3662 Western Avenue
Connersville, IN 47331
Phone: (765) 825-5261

Short summary of the initiative:

The contracted IMPACT provider, ACS (Affiliated Computer Systems), employs a Field Consultant who engages the client in employment activities including life skills training, job coaching, community work experience and job advancement training. The consultant takes a hands-on approach to mold the services to the needs of the individual.

Working Together

To Help Working Families

Mentor Moms (Grant County)

Contact Information:

Name: Andrea Franks
Address: YWCA of Marion
615 S. Adams Street
Marion, IN 46953
Phone: (765) 668-8995

Short summary of the initiative:

Mentor Moms is a program available through the YMCA to assist mothers and fathers in their parenting skills.

Faith-Based Mentoring and Training (Huntington County)

Contact Information:

Name: Richard Wiehe
Address: Urban Suburban Alliances
2435 Glenhill Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46240
Phone: (317) 844-1433

Short Summary of the initiative:

A faith-based mentoring program was begun under the current contract with Urban Suburban Alliances providing 'train the trainer' sessions. Countywide area churches are represented by members to assist local DFC staff in working with IMPACT clients to promote personal growth and independence. This is a community-based initiative.

Soft skills training is provided by contract provider using the PBS video series, *Workplace Essential Skills*, as one of their tools.

Project Independence (Kosciusko County)

Contact Information:

Name: Tammy Vetur, Combined Community Services, Inc.
Address: 110 E. Prairie Street
Warsaw, IN 36580
Phone: (574) 269-6019

Short summary of the initiative:

Project Independence is a mentoring program that started in 1992 which assists low-income families in Kosciusko County in achieving economic independence through education. Last year, seventeen participants graduated while receiving assistance in this program. The services offered are education and vocational planning, support groups, financial aid information, time management, goal setting, decision making, organization, communication skills, self-esteem improvement, parenting assistance, budgeting and information referrals. Their long-term goal is to assist clients in securing productive employment and eliminating their need for financial assistance from private or governmental resources.

C.A.N.W.O.R.K. (Morgan County)

Contact Information:

Name: Prosecutor's Office
Address: Morgan County Courthouse, 1st floor
10 E. Washington Street
Martinsville, IN 46151
Phone: (765) 342-1050

Short summary of the initiative:

The program seeks to pair volunteer mentors with parents who have become involved with the Probation Department, the Office of Family and Children, or the Child Support Division in an attempt to assist them in securing stable employment. Participants referred to the program learn about successful parenting, job readiness and employment retention. The idea is to provide tools for success that the clients can utilize to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency for themselves and their families.

Working Together

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Partners in Caring (Vanderburgh County)

Contact Information:

Name: Dave Schute
Address: Family and Children Services
655 Hebron Avenue
Evansville, IN 47714
Phone: (812) 471-1776
Fax: (812) 469-2000

Name: Susan Carson
Address: Vanderburgh County Office of Family and Children
P.O. Box 154
Evansville, IN 47701
Phone: (812) 421-5404
Fax: (812) 421-4196

Short summary of the initiative:

The Vanderburgh County Office of Family and Children (OFC) has partnered with a community social service coalition, *Partners in Caring*, in the development and funding of a mentoring program. The funding for the program was provided by a local Catholic hospital foundation, which was looking to develop outreach programs for persons in need in the community. The mentoring funding and development responsibilities were awarded by bid to a local counseling agency, Family and Children Services. Family and Children Services has worked with the community to find and train potential mentors. Individuals requesting to be paired with a mentor are matched with a trained individual who would most likely be able to assist that individual in moving toward their goal of self-sufficiency. TANF clients were identified as a priority group to receive the mentor service.

PARTNERSHIPS

FaithWorks Indiana (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: FaithWorks Indiana
Address: P.O. Box 40977
Indianapolis, IN 46240-0977
Phone: (800) 599-6043
Fax: (317) 706-2660
E-mail: www.in.gov/faithworks

Short summary of the initiative:

The State of Indiana's Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) Division of Family and Children (DFC) has launched FaithWorks Indiana, an initiative to promote faith-based and community-based supportive

services to families throughout Indiana. This initiative, launched Thanksgiving week of 1999 by Indiana Governor Frank O'Bannon, assists faith-based and community-based organizations of all types in developing services and in accessing state, federal, and private funding to help Hoosier families in need. Examples of the kinds of services that Indiana organizations might provide include emergency services (food, shelter, clothing, transportation); counseling; family mentoring; child care; youth programs (tutoring, after school programs, mentoring); job-search/job-readiness; parenting programs, etc. This initiative is supported by the *Charitable Choice* provision of the federal welfare legislation enacted in 1996: *The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunities Reconciliation Act*. This *Charitable Choice* provision encourages states to expand the involvement of community and faith-based organizations in the public anti-poverty effort.

At the outset of the initiative, FaithWorks Indiana conducted a series of informal meetings conducted throughout the state to gain input from the faith community on the direction for FaithWorks Indiana and surveyed Indiana congregations to discover current services being provided and the capacity of faith-based organizations to provide supportive services to Hoosier families. Technical Assistance Workshops are offered each spring that address the following topics:

- Allowable services and practices under the charitable choice provision;
- Best practices in service development and delivery;
- Matching community needs with a faith-based organization's values;
- How to write grant proposals;
- Financial management and the process of obtaining status as a separate not-for-profit entity; and
- How to access relevant funding sources.

The Technical Assistance Packet used in the workshops is available on the web site and may be requested through the toll-free number. Organizations are welcome to contact FaithWorks Indiana for technical assistance through the web site, www.in.gov/faithworks, or the toll-free number, 1-800-599-6043.

Working Together

To Help Working Families

Partnerships for Hoosier Communities (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Tom Rugh, Executive Vice President,
Indiana Association of United Ways
Address: United Way
3901 N. Meridian Street, Suite 306
Indianapolis, IN 46208-4026
Phone: (317) 923-2377
E-mail: Tom.Rugh@iauw.org

Short summary of the initiative:

Partners for Hoosier Communities is a statewide coalition of social services, workforce, and economic development organizations that have created a project titled "Building Ladders for Success," funded by the Joyce Foundation of Chicago. The project is designed to help communities address public policy issues of jobs, wages, and poverty through new research and informational forums. Partners cooperate to build new linkages and disseminate practical information to affect public policies to help welfare recipients and the working poor become economically self-reliant.

Partners include:

- Association of Indiana Workforce Investment Boards
- Indiana Association of United Ways (www.iauw.org)
- Indiana Coalition on Housing and Homeless Issues (www.ichhi.org)
- Indiana Coalition for Human Services (www.ladders4success.org/ichs.htm)
- Indiana Community Action Association (www.incap.org)
- Indiana Economic Development Council, Inc. (www.iedc.org)
- Indiana Human Resource Investment Council
- Indiana University Institute for Family and Social Responsibility (www.spea.indiana.edu/fasr)
- Indiana University Institute for the Study of Government and the Nonprofit Sector (<http://isgns.spea.iupui.edu/default.htm>)
- United Way Community Service Council of Central Indiana (www.uwci.org)

More information on the following research topics can be found on the Building Ladders for Success web site, www.ladders4success.org.

- Poverty and the Working Poor in Indiana
- Tax Burdens and Low-Income Households
- Estimating Basic Needs Budgets for Indiana Families: Year 2000 Update
- Is there a Job Gap in Indiana?
- Pathways to Livable Wage Jobs
- Recent National Research on Welfare-to-Work: Bibliographic Review
- The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Indiana
- Participants Survey on Welfare Reform Issues, Priorities and Policy Options
- Factfinder on Income and Poverty in Indiana
- Does Work Pay in Indiana?
- Estimating a Basic Needs Budget for Indiana Families

Partners research through 2003 will:

- Mine 2000 Census data as it is released to identify characteristics of low-income families in Indiana and the communities where they live,
- Construct an interactive model of various state taxes and their policy implications for services to low-income families, and
- Develop a "social indicators" analysis similar to "economic indicators" that Indiana leaders can use to gauge the impact of expanding or new businesses on communities.

Working Together

To Help Working Families

Welfare-to-Work Partnership (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Karla Mantia, Deputy Director,
Child Support Bureau
Address: Division of Family and Children
Indiana Family and Social Services
Administration
402 W.Washington Street
Room W360
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 232-4885
Fax: (317) 233-4925
E-mail: kmantia@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

The Bureau of Child Support has partnered with Workforce Development, the Tecumseh Area Workforce Investment Board and Purdue University to obtain a grant that will provide welfare-to-work, parenting and other referral services for non-custodial parents. Currently this is available in White and Tippecanoe counties. This service will be a valuable asset to the IV-D Enforcement Offices, as it will provide them with a referral source for non-custodial parents that can help them improve the quality of their life as well as that of their children. The Bureau of Child Support will continue to pursue this type of service for other counties.

Head Start – Child Support Partnership (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Karla Mantia, Deputy Director,
Child Support Bureau
Address: Division of Family and Children
Indiana Family and Social Services
Administration
402 W.Washington Street
Room W360
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 232-4885
Fax: (317) 233-4925
E-mail: kmantia@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

The Bureau of Child Support, the Indiana Child Support Alliance and the Indiana Head Start Association have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate. The Bureau is encouraging all local offices to form partnerships. Workshops have been held to train county IV-D staff about approaching their local Head Start offices and the Bureau is informing them of the benefits of the collaborative process. Child Support offices that have successfully formed a partnership with their local Head Start offices have been encouraged to share their success stories. At this time there are at least fourteen county partnerships: Clay, Hendricks, Morgan, Owen, Putnam, Lawrence, Martin, Orange, Washington, Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley and Switzerland.

In November 2002, the Head Start Child Support Partnership will hold two workshops at the Region V Head Start Conference to be held in Indianapolis.

IMPACT Services (Bartholomew County)

Contact Information:

Name: Kathleen Shearman, Quinco
Shelly Shirlye, River Valley Resources
Address: 806 Jackson Street
Columbus, IN 47201
Phone: (812) 376-4836

Short summary of the initiative:

The two IMPACT providers in Bartholomew County, River Valley Resources and Quinco, are collaborating in their efforts to achieve client participation by conducting joint workshops.

Working Together

To Help Working Families

Community Involvement of OFC Case Managers (Boone County)

Contact Information:

Name: Boone County Office of Family
and Children
Address: P.O. Box 548
953 Monument Drive
Lebanon, IN 46052
Phone: (765) 482-3023

Short summary of the initiative:

The Boone County Office of Family and Children (OFC) staff attend a community meeting that is comprised of church organizations, township trustees, mental health agencies and various community agencies. The meeting is for planning purposes to identify the services offered by different organizations, where to refer families and individuals in the community and how to avoid duplication of services.

The OFC also takes part in the Domestic Violence Task Force and works closely with the Victim's Advocate and Boone County Mental Health for services and support for domestic violence issues.

These activities have been helpful in keeping OFC case managers informed of new resources in the community for clients.

Funding for Supportive Services (Brown County)

Contact Information:

Name: Penny Hoskins
Address: Christole Inc.
P.O. Box 1789
Nashville, IN 47448
Phone: (812) 988-1257

Short summary of the initiative:

The local Community Action Program case manager has applied for grants to pay for incidentals and fees that cannot be met by more restrictive funding sources, such as IMPACT funding for supportive services. The CAP already has received an REMC grant for \$1,500 and a \$500 donation from the local Lions Club. Recipients must demonstrate effort toward self-sufficiency to qualify.

Brown County Food Pantry and the Local Office of Family and Children (Brown County)

Contact Information:

Name: Brown County Office of Family
and Children
Address: P.O. Box 325
Nashville, IN 47448
Phone: (812) 988-2239

Short summary of the initiative:

Brown County Food Pantry is administered by Office of Family and Children volunteers for food distribution of goods donated by local churches and food drives.

Coordination with the Child Support Office (Cass County)

Contact Information:

Name: Cass County Office of Family
and Children
Address: 1714 Dividend Drive
Logansport, IN 46947
Phone: (574) 722-3677

Short summary of the initiative:

The Cass County OFC sends referrals directly to the IV-D Child Support Office and enter this as an activity in the client's Self-Sufficiency Plan. The referral forms include all updated absent parent information in the memo portion. Once the IV-D office makes contact with a participant, the referral form is faxed back to the OFC case manager with an appropriate notation.

Funding for Supportive Services (Clark County)

Contact Information:

Name: Terry Richards
Address: 1329 Applegate Lane
Clarksville, IN 47129
Phone: (812) 283-7908

Short summary of the initiative:

Bridgepointe Goodwill and Easter Seals is one of the 2002 IMPACT contractors in Clark County, and their case managers work actively with clients. Two recent grants received by the provider were from the Community Foundation of Southern Indiana (\$4,460) and the WHAS Crusade for Children (\$21,820). These grants have allowed for the purchase of desktop computers and assistance technology that make it possible for clients to have access to job postings via the Internet and provide for enhancement in their Early Childhood Program.

Co-Location with Partner Agencies
(Crawford County)

Contact Information:

Name: Herbert Gordon, Director
Celeste King, FCC Supervisor
Address: Crawford County Office of Family
and Children
P.O. Box 129
English, IN 47118
Phone: (812) 338-2701
(800) 691-2877

Short summary of the initiative:

The Crawford County Office of Family and Children is co-located with Workforce Development, River Valley Resources (an employment services provider), Vocational Rehabilitation, Blue River Employment Services (an employment services provider) and Green Thumb (a program for seniors).

Office of Family and Children and Staffing
Advantage (Daviess County)

Contact Information:

Name: Mary Beth Vaught
Address: Daviess County Office of Family
and Children
P.O. Box 618
4 NE 21st Street
Washington, IN 47501
Phone: (812) 254-0690

Short summary of the initiative:

Staffing Advantage, a local employment agency, meets with client at the contract IMPACT provider's office each month to share employment opportunities with clients and assist them with applying for those opportunities.

OFC-IMPACT Provider Case Manager
Joint Sessions and Management Meetings
(Elkhart County)

Contact Information:

Name: Tony Sommer
Address: Elkhart Office of Family and Children
347 W. Lusher Avenue
Elkhart, IN 46516
Phone: (574) 296-5303
Fax: (574) 522-6941
E-mail: tsommer@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

The Elkhart Office of Family and Children (OFC) requires its IMPACT case managers to attend joint sessions with their referred clients and the service provider on a bi-weekly basis. This allows for more communication between the OFC and the provider, as well as evaluating and changing a client's self-sufficiency plan in a more timely manner. This system also promotes involvement of the IMPACT worker with the client and provider as each goal is reached.

The Elkhart County Office of Family and Children IMPACT management team meet jointly with management teams from three IMPACT providers monthly. This helps the line of communication between the Office of Family and Children and providers and from provider to provider. As a result of the monthly meetings, problem solving is greatly improved.

Regional Trade and Technology Career Fair
(Floyd County)

Contact Information:

Name: Floyd County Office of Family
and Children
Address: 1421 E. Elm Street
New Albany, IN 47150
Phone: (812) 948-5480

Short summary of the initiative:

The Regional Trade and Technology Career Fair was held on February 5-6, 2002, and offered opportunities for interested unemployed or underemployed residents to participate in hands-on activities related to the skills needed in health care technician and information technology occupations. The fair was provided in collaboration with several community organizations.

Local Newspaper Partnership for DFC Donations
(Gibson County)

Contact Information:

Name: Dennis Perkins
Address: 321 S. Fifth Avenue
Princeton, IN 47670
Phone: (812) 385-4727

Short summary of the initiative:

The local newspaper, *Princeton Daily Clarion*, works with the DFC by having an "Items Needed" section. One of our FCCs determines needs of specific clients such as beds, couches, dressers, etc. and sends the list to the Clarion. The Clarion publishes the list on a weekly basis and asks readers to donate these items to the DFC for distribution to the particular client. We have been successful with getting needed items to low-income families while those who donated have gotten rid of items no longer useful to them. It's a win-win situation.

Child Support-OFC Joint Intake
(Hancock County)

Contact Information:

Name: Ruth Alewine, Hancock County Office
of Family and Children
Address: 120 W. McKenzie, Suite F
Greenfield, IN 46140
Phone: (317) 467-6360, ext. 230
Fax: (317) 467-6364
E-mail: ralewine@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

Child Support staff from the Hancock County Prosecutor's Office are present in the Hancock County Office of Family and Children (OFC) on each Tuesday. We try to schedule new TANF intake appointments for that time. Clients first talk with the IV-D staff, and then have their TANF interview. This process has benefited clients by having their questions answered before they become authorized for TANF. It has also helped the OFC staff to become more familiar with IV-D procedures. Under our Child Support Plan, we will have monthly meetings between the OFC liaison, the IV-D deputy, and the IV-D administrator.

Services for Latino Populations
(Harrison County)

Contact Information:

Name: Patricia Fulkerson
Address: Harrison County Office of Family
and Children
P.O. Box 366
Corydon, IN 47112
Phone: (812) 738-8166

Short summary of the initiative:

Madera Ministries sponsors free classes teaching English to Hispanic persons. Also, articles of interest to Hispanics are printed in both Spanish and English in the local newspaper. Two local churches provide one free meal weekly to anyone in need.

Township Trustees and the Office of Family and
Children (Jennings County)

Contact Information:

Name: Cindy Spicer
Address: Jennings County OFC
2017 Crestwood Drive, 200 North
North Vernon, IN 47265
Phone: (812) 346-2254

Short summary of the initiative:

The Jennings County Office of Family and Children (OFC) Family Case Coordinator Supervisor attends the monthly township trustee meetings to review trustee reports, answer questions regarding OFC services and develop rapport to assist with client referrals. They currently utilize a "trustee expedite" referral system for an immediate interview when referred by the trustee.

Health and Fitness Expo (Jennings County)

Contact Information:

Name: Cindy Spicer
Address: Jenings Co. OFC
2017 Crestwood Drive, 200 North
North Vernon, IN 47265
(812) 346-2254

Name: Lori Ganote
Address: Jennings Family Care
325 Henry Street
North Vernon, IN 47265

Phone: (812) 352-4300

Short summary of the initiative:

The OFC hosted a booth at the Health and Fitness Expo 2002 in May, sponsored by Street Vincent Jennings Hospital, to share information about Hoosier Healthwise and other OFC services. The Street Vincent/Jennings Family Care Facility also hosted a children’s Health Expo on Sept 7, 2002 at which community agencies are providing free physicals for ages 0-15, free dental exams, free eye exams, hearing screenings, bicycle safety, street safety, etc. The Jennings Co. OFC will be available for information on Hoosier Healthwise and other OFC services.

Link Advocate and the Office of Family and Children (Lake County)

Contact Information:

Name: Sue Planert
Address: Street Jude House
12490 Marshall Street
Crown Point, IN 46307

Phone: (219) 662-7066

Short summary of the initiative:

The Link Advocate and the Family Case Managers from the Lake County Office of Family and Children conduct joint investigations in abuse and neglect cases in an effort to provide a broad range of services to victims of domestic violence. The collaboration has allowed parents and caretakers of reported victims of child abuse or neglect to access additional services. Additionally, it provides an opportunity for these individuals to be screened for domestic violence.

Office of Family and Children and Service Providers (LaPorte County)

Contact Information:

Name: LaPorte County Office of Family and Children
Address: P.O. Box 1402
1230 SR 2 W
LaPorte, IN 46352

Phone: (219) 326-5870

Short summary of the initiative:

The LaPorte County Office of Family and Children holds monthly meetings with providers to resolve issues before they develop into problems and open lines of communication. Minutes are kept and distributed for future reference and other agencies are often included, such as the Child Care Voucher Agent, local mental health agency or Workforce Development Office. At the end of the year, a luncheon is held to thank the providers and other key agencies.

Office of Family and Children and Mental Health Agency (LaPorte County)

Contact Information:

Name: LaPorte County Office of Family and Children
Address: P.O. Box 1402
1230 SR 2 W
LaPorte, IN 46352

Phone: (219) 326-5870

Short summary of the initiative:

This pilot program with the local mental health agency allows a counselor to meet with clients as they begin to participate in IMPACT to discuss any substance abuse, domestic violence, anger management or other issues that may prevent the family from becoming self-sufficient.

JobSource and the Center for Mental Health (Madison County)

Contact Information:

Name: Cindy Donnelly, Implementation Director
Address: JobSource
P.O. Box 149
Anderson, IN 46015-0149

Phone: (765) 641-6519
Fax: (765) 641-6548
E-mail: cdonnelly@madisoncty.com

Short summary of the initiative:

Through collaborative efforts of JobSource and the Center for Mental Health, an agreement was reached to have a representative from the Center give an orientation describing mental health services to Job Club participants twice monthly at the JobSource office. Clients have an opportunity to schedule counseling for themselves and their families if there is a need.

Customer Service Enhancement Project (Madison County)

Counties: Madison and Marion (pilot counties)

Contact Information:

Name: Matt Raibley, IMPACT Manager
Address: 402 W. Washington Street
Room W363
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Phone: (317) 232-2002
E-mail: mraibley@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

The Customer Service Enhancement (CSE) Project was a state-initiated project that involves two pilot sites, Madison County River Centre Place and the Marion County Michigan Street location. The CSE mission statement is to create in the pilot sites (Madison County and Marion County, W. Michigan Street) an environment where there is no “wrong door” as a client enters the facility to obtain services from DWD, FSSA, or other One-Stop Provider staff. Cross-training of staff from multiple agencies in each other’s offerings, improved referral mechanisms, inter-agency directories and improved access to inter-agency data systems and training are some of the activities that have resulted from the project.

Network for Success (Miami County)

Contact Information:

Name: Lori Mathews
Address: Miami County Office of Family and Children
P.O. Box 143
Peru, IN 46970

Phone: (765) 473-6611
Fax: (765) 472-0587
E-mail: lmathews@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

The community entities that provide education, training, supported employment, job search, job placement and job retention activities decided to collaborate, to more effectively market their programs to employers interested in hiring a diverse workforce. The collaboration was named *Network for Success* and includes Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Ivy Tech State College, Vocational Rehabilitation, the Peru Housing Authority, Transition Resources, Bridges Enterprises, Bona Vista’s Workforce Diversity, and the Miami Office of Family and Children. *Network for Success* meets monthly to discuss marketing, placement and employment opportunities for their clients, and they sponsor a semi-annual community Breakfast for Businesses.

Prosecutor’s Office and Office of Family and Children (Monroe County)

Contact Information:

Name: Lindsey A. Smith, Director
Address: 401 E. Miller Drive
Bloomington, IN 47401

Phone: (812) 336-6351

Short summary of the initiative:

The Monroe County Office of Family and Children is developing an initiative to co-locate with the Prosecutor’s office to significantly reduce the barrier of going to the “courthouse” to cooperate with the child support enforcement program. The plan is to contract with the prosecutor’s office as a demonstration project for the services of paternity establishment, child support order establishment and child support enforcement.

Work Model Partnership (Montgomery County)

Contact Information:

Name: David Ling, Acting Director
Kay Kelley, FCC
Address: Montgomery County Office of Family and Children
307 Binford Street
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
Phone: (765) 362-5600
Fax: (765) 361-0141
E-mail: dling@fssa.state.in.us or
kkelley@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

The Montgomery County Division of Family and Children staff, along with Community Action Program, Crawfordsville Community School Corporation and community agencies, work together to assist the families in our county to work toward their goal to gain self-sufficiency. We currently contract with the Community Action Program and they provide our referrals with a Work-Model program. This is a 30-day program where clients are placed in a not-for-profit worksite, placed on the CAP payroll and paid minimum wage for 25 hours per work week. This workmodel activity is used to assess each client's skills and move them on to job placement and job retention. Clients are required to attend a Monday and Friday class each week to prepare for the week and end the week. The Friday class is an opportunity to network with our workmodel participants to share their experiences of that week. This is a time to prepare for the upcoming week to make sure nothing will keep that participant from being back at their worksite on Monday. Client rewards for success (satisfactory evaluations for the week, meeting all weekly goals, etc.) are provided in the form of gas vouchers. Vouchers from Goodwill are also used.

Being creative in eliminating transportation barriers is something Montgomery County has to deal with on a daily basis. The Community Action Program has at this time three agency cars they loan out to our clients that are working until on-going transportation can be arranged. The loaner cars have been an asset to our program. CAP also has a low interest car loan program that they assist our working clients with.

Montgomery County has a group of agency representatives that meet monthly in what we call our "Partners meeting." This group consists of IMPACT staff, Community Action staff, Crawfordsville Housing Authority Director, CARA and Even Start staff (education programs), Voc Rehab counselor, Township Trustee staff (partner also with the Welfare-to-Work

program), and staff from the Family Crisis Shelter. This has become a very supportive group that identifies how we can work together to address barriers facing the clients we have in common. We want to represent to our clients that we all work together as a team and they (the client) are key members of this team.

Our community offers a free child care referral source Montgomery County Child Care Coalition. They also offer access to child care training and assistance for employers.

Community Resource Directory (Porter County)

Contact Information:

Name: Porter County Office of Family and Children
Address: 152 Indiana Avenue
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: (219) 462-2112

Short summary of the initiative:

The OFC makes a Community Resource Directory available to all staff and representative from outside agencies are invited to speak with staff from time to time to familiarize them with available services.

Local Office of Family and Children and Child Care Voucher Agent (Saint Joseph County)

Contact Information:

Name: Saint Joseph County Office of Family and Children
Address: 401 E. Colfax Avenue, Suite 116
South Bend, IN 46617
Phone: (574) 236-5300

Short summary of the initiative:

A strong relationship between the Office of Family and Children and the Child Care Voucher Agent, as well as an efficient referral process and frequent communication, helps participants get child care arranged more quickly.

Co-Location of Partner Agencies (Scott County)

Contact Information:

Name: Angela Beanblossom
Address: 1092 West Community Way
Scottsburg, IN 47170
Phone: (812) 752-7365

Short summary of initiative:

The Scott County IMPACT provider for 2002, the Scott County Partnership, is housed in the Scott County LifeLong Learning Center, which also houses a WorkOne Express Center, River Valley Resources, Vocational Rehabilitation, Ivy Tech State College Branch, Scott County Literacy Council, Scott County ABE/GED Program, Manpower, Personnel Management, Inc., and Green Thumb. The Scott County Partnership has also applied for and received additional funding, through Future Skill\$ Now, a pilot program of the Family and Social Services Administration and Department of Workforce Development (DWD); the Community Development Block Grant; and the Regional Skills Alliance program within DWD to fund three tiers of training activities, including life skills; workplace basics; and incumbent worker with career advancement.

Payment for Gasoline through Faith-Based Partnership (Spencer County)

Contact Information:

Name: Connie Branch
Address: P.O. Box 25
Rockport, IN 47635
Phone: (812) 649-9111

Short summary of the initiative:

There were no gasoline stations in Spencer County that would accept a "charge account" with the IMPACT program. Christian Resource Center, a local organization, agreed to assist the clients in purchasing their gasoline and then be reimbursed by the Spencer County Office of Family and Children (OFC). This solved a major problem for the OFC in this very rural county. The OFC had several clients in need of gasoline expense assistance to start looking for employment and continue to travel to their employer.

Brown Bag Lunches (Spencer County)

Contact Information:

Name: Rebekah DeWeese
Address: 900 Old Plank Road
P.O. Box 25
Rockport, IN 47635
Phone: (812) 649-9111

Short summary of the initiative:

In an effort to promote partnerships within the local social service community, the Spencer County OFC has implemented the *Brown Bag Lunch*. On a quarterly basis the local "frontline" employees meet and network over lunch. Originally hosted by the OFC, we now alternate and the "hosting duties" are shared by many of the participating agencies. The lunches have lent a feeling of community among the staffs of the area agencies and many times have led to new partnerships. The meeting of the "frontline" staff is important as many times several agencies are working with the same client. While being careful to always maintain appropriate confidentiality, workers have an actual relationship with the other individuals who seek to help our clients as we do. Having only frontline staffs attend also leads to a camaraderie among the agencies that fosters partnerships.

Public Assistance and Child Welfare Coordination (Sullivan County)

Contact Information:

Name: James Bedwell, Director
Address: 128 State Street
P.O. Box 348
Sullivan, IN 47882
Phone: (812) 268-6326

Short summary of the initiative:

There are some families who are working with IMPACT, as well as with Child Protection Services (CPS), at the Sullivan County Office of Family and Children (OFC). The case manager from IMPACT and the case manager from CPS meet with the client and collaborate to help the client develop achievable plans (a Self-Sufficiency Plan, for IMPACT) for both programs. In many cases, these clients would be destined to fail without taking into consideration the priorities and consequences for each division of the OFC.

Office of Family and Children and The
Counseling Center (Tippecanoe County)

Contact Information:

Name: Chris Falley, Director
Address: 210 N. 3rd Street, Suite 200
P.O. Box 1186
Lafayette, IN 47902
Phone: (765) 742-4848

Short summary of the initiative:

The Tippecanoe Office of Family and Children contracted with The Counseling Center, whose staff includes psychologists, to provide initial assessments that include identifying domestic violence issues, alcohol or drug involvement, mental health needs and other job readiness barriers. The report that is generated from the center lists services that may be needed by the client and assists the OFC case manager in writing successful Self-Sufficiency Plans.

Office of Family and Children and the
Prosecutor’s Office (Tippecanoe County)

Contact Information:

Name: Tippecanoe Office of Family
and Children
Address: 111 N. 4th Street
Lafayette, IN 47901
Phone: (765) 742-0400, ext. 121

Short summary of the initiative:

The Tippecanoe County Office of Family and Children is developing an initiative to co-locate with the Prosecutor’s Office to significantly reduce the barrier of going to the “courthouse” to cooperate with the child support enforcement program.

ARK Crisis Nursery and the Office of Family
and Children (Vanderburgh)

Contact Information:

Name: Mindy Pohl, Director
Address: ARK Crisis Nursery
609 S.E. Second Street
Evansville, IN 47713
Phone: (812) 423-9425

Name: Susan Carson
Address: Vanderburgh County Office of Family
and Children
P.O. Box 154
Evansville, IN 47701
Phone: (812) 421-5404
Fax: (812) 421-4196
E-mail: scarson@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

The Vanderburgh County Office of Family and Children (OFC) partners with the ARK Crisis Nursery to provide child care to individuals needing assistance while completing interviews with the OFC and obtaining and maintaining employment. The ARK Crisis Nursery provides short-term free child care for families under stress or in need. The OFC provides all potential applicants with information about the ARK with their application packet and at times of stress. The ARK will also assist clients with child care for working families when emergency situations prevent their standard child care from being available. The ARK’s goal is to keep children safe while working with families to develop good parenting skills and work towards self-sufficiency.

Office of Family and Children (OFC) and
IMPACT Provider (Warrick County)

Contact Information:

Name: IMPACT Program
Address: Warrick County Local Office of Family
and Children
P.O. Box 265
Boonville, IN 47601
Phone: (812) 897-2270
Fax: (812) 897-7024

Short summary of the initiative:

Problems exist with getting clients to show up for their first appointment with the contracted IMPACT provider after being referred by the OFC. The plan is to call the provider while the OFC case manager has the client in the office and, if the IMPACT provider case manager is available, have the IMPACT provider case manager “run down” to the OFC (a few blocks away), meet the client, and schedule their appointment together. The result is that the client can observe the two case managers working together and that the fear of meeting someone new in a strange office is alleviated.

Office of Family and Children and Employers
(White County)

Contact Information:

Name: White County Office of Family
and Children
Address: 715 N. Main Street
Monticello, IN 47960
Phone: (574) 583-5742

Short summary of the initiative:

The Office of Family and Children (OFC) staff have built a rapport with local employers, who will let OFC case managers know if they have vacancies or if an IMPACT recipient is having trouble on the job so that the case manager can help solve the problem before it leads to termination.

SCHOOL-TO-WORK

Career Connection - Northrop High School
(Allen County)

Contact Information:

Name: Barrie Peterson, Career Connection
Coordinator
Address: Northrop High School
7001 Coldwater Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46825
Phone: (260) 425-7565
E-mail: barrie.peterson@fwcs.k12.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

Northrop High School has identified four career pathways based on labor market data for North Indiana. A team was formed for each pathway comprised of students, professionals in related career courses, area career center representatives and teachers. The teams determined which courses offered at Northrop and Anthis Career Center would assist students in achieving their personal career goals within the career pathway. A Course Description Handbook for students was developed which describes each pathway and identifies required and elective courses for each grade level. Information is also given regarding post-secondary programs and related career positions ranging from entry to professional levels.

- All students have an educational/Career Plan that demonstrates focus, direction, and a plan of action.
- Graduation rates have increased from 74.3% (1994) to 92.2% (1998).
- College attendance has increased from 47.4% (1994) to 69.5% (1998).
- Dropout rates have decreased from 4.5% (1994) to less than 3% (1998).

Vision of Industry and School In On-going Networks (VISION) (Howard County)

Contact Information:

Name: Glenn Grundmann, Program Director
Address: Indiana University Kokomo
P.O. Box 9003
Kokomo, Indiana 46904-9003
Phone: (765) 455-9553

Short summary of the initiative:

Since its inception in 1994, 105 teachers from 9 school corporations have participated in the VISION (Vision of Industry and School In On-going Networks) program. Twenty-two of these teachers have completed the second level VISION experience since 1999. Participants have reported that VISION provided useful methods for transferring new knowledge and skills to the classroom, led to establishing a network among themselves and with individuals in business and industry, and assisted them in integrating new materials and technology into the classroom, especially for teaching science and mathematics.

VISION is a year long program that begins with a three-week long summer experience. During the three weeks, participants are enrolled in a three-credit hour graduate course and visit some of the 13 business and industry partners in order to become actively engaged in the latest technology that is used in those businesses and industries. As a course and program requirement, teachers must develop a curriculum project based on their business/industry experiences. The curriculum projects are presented to and critiqued by classmates in follow-up sessions during the fall semester. The teachers must use the projects in their classrooms and present assessment data to the group at other follow-up sessions. The program builds lasting relationships between teachers and individuals in the businesses and industries. Teachers call upon the business/industry contacts that they have made to visit their classes and help make the desired connections between academic classes and the world of work.

FutureFest and Envision the Future (Porter County)

Contact Information:

Name: FutureFest - Jon Groth
Area Vocational Director
Address: 750 Ransom Road
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: (219) 464-9607
E-mail: jon_groth@mail.poconet.k12.in.us

Name: Envision the Future - Jeff Jordan
Executive Director
Address: Kankakee Valley Workforce
Development Services
2600 Roosevelt Road, Suite 2005
Valparaiso, IN 46384
Phone: (219) 464-4861
E-mail: jbjordan@usa.net

Short summary of the initiative:

FutureFest and Envision the Future are two activities that provide over 2,000 students each year with a connection between school-based learning and career opportunities. These two pieces work in tandem to expose students to careers through hands-on activities that then articulate into earnings and decision-making on the type of lifestyle kids want to live as adults.

In Porter County middle schools, seventh grade students begin hearing about career clusters and careers within those clusters. In October each year, over 1,500 students converge on the Porter County Expo Center where they have hands-on opportunities to explore careers at FutureFest. Over 150 careers are represented and students are able to see x-rays with a radiologist, hammer nails with a carpenter, or put on a fire protectant suit used in the steel mills. Students visit at least six of the fourteen career clusters at FutureFest. Students retain this information for use in the spring of their eighth-grade year when they again visit career exploration and begin planning for their high school courses. A culminating activity is Envision the Future that is adapted from the Business and Professional Women's Reality Store concept. Each student starts the experience with the monthly income they expect to make at age 28. Over 100 volunteers provide students with choices to make on houses, cars, child care, food and other necessities. Both of these initiatives are widely supported by the community and have garnered independent financial support for this continuation. The key benefit is that businesses can send someone out one day to do a hands-on demonstration of their occupation instead of visiting thirteen separate schools. For students, both activities begin to give them more information they must have to connect their learning with future needs and wants including the pathways to take to achieve those careers.

SERVICES FOR
NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS

Indiana Fathers & Families (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Matt Raibley, Manager,
IMPACT Program
Address: Division of Family and Children
402 W. Washington Street,
Room W363
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 232-2002
Fax: (317) 232-4615
E-mail: mraibley@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

The IMPACT program is spearheading this program which provides grantees with funds to develop, implement, and support "Indiana Fathers & Families" projects to expand appropriate and effective fatherhood involvement in their children's lives. Information about this program and the Conference can be found at the Indiana Fathers and Families web site: www.in.gov/fathers

Faith-Based Fatherhood Program (Allen County)

Contact Information:

Name: Rev. Jesse Beasley
Address: Living Word of God Ministries, Inc.
704 E. Pontiac Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46803
Phone: (260) 744-9163

Short summary of the initiative:

Living Word of God Ministries provides employment and training services for landscaping careers, including job readiness services, computer skills training and GED courses to fathers participating in the program. On-site child care is also offered.

Bartholomew Area Legal Aid Fatherhood Program (Bartholomew County)

Contact Information:

Name: Bob Moats
Address: Bartholomew Area Legal Aid, Inc.
1971 State Street
Columbus, IN 47201
Phone: (812) 372-8933

Short summary of the initiative:

The program offers consultation with attorneys to fathers with visitation issues, as well as Pro Se assistance to father interested in establishing paternity.

Clark County Youth Shelter Fatherhood Program (Clark County)

Contact Information:

Name: Lucy Leeson
Address: Clark County Youth Shelter
Jeffersonville, IN 47130
Phone: (812) 284-5229

Short summary of the initiative:

The Clark County Youth Shelter assists fathers in obtaining full or partial legal custody of their children once they have completed all parenting education and support group sessions. On-site child care is available and transportation to group sessions is provided, when needed.

Non-Custodial Parent Program (Elkhart County)

Contact Information:

Name: Tony Sommer
Address: Elkhart Office of Family and Children
347 W. Lusher Avenue
Elkhart, IN 46516
Phone: (574) 296-5303
Fax: (574) 522-6941
E-mail: tsommer@fssa.state.in.us

Name: Larry Towns
Address: Truth Consultants of Indiana, Inc.
1619 Greenbrier Drive
Elkhart, IN 46514
Phone: (574) 266-4034
Fax: (574) 262-9591
E-mail: TCI@mvillage.com

Short summary of the initiative:

The Elkhart Office of Family and Children (OFC) will have a contract with an investigative firm to pursue non-custodial parents and to encourage involvement in their children's lives in a financial, and possibly emotional, way. The investigative firm will be required to have bi-weekly contact with the custodial and non-custodial parent until such time as the non-custodial parent appears in court. The goal of this contract is to promote more payment of child support as well as create an avenue for the non-custodial parent to take an active role in the lives of their children (where such involvement is appropriate).

Fatherhood Program (Jefferson County)

Contact Information:

Name: Bob Sembroski
Address: Jefferson-Switzerland County
Prosecutor's Office
315 1/2 E. Second Street
Madison, IN 47250
Phone: (812) 265-8943

Short summary of the initiative:

The program provides employment assistance, parenting education and legal assistance to non-custodial fathers. All fathers participate in an annual job fair and parenting education sessions. Participants are also offered assistance in establishing paternity and increasing child support through employment.

TECHNOLOGY

Web-Based Child Care Finder (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Carole Stein, Indiana Child Care Fund, Inc.
Address: Bureau of Child Development
Division of Family and Children
Indiana Family and Social Services Administration
402 W.Washington Street
Room W392
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 232-1148
Fax: (317) 232-4490
E-mail: cstein2@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

Log on and Locate Quality Child Care:
www.childcarefinder.in.gov

Remember that as a parent or guardian, you have the power to seek, evaluate, and demand quality child care.

When parents work outside of the home or are in school, young children may spend many hours each week in child care. There are many child care choices to consider, and the quality of the programs can vary widely. You need to know more about what goes into providing quality child care. Finding quality child care is one of the most important decisions that a parent or guardian must make for their children.

Now, through the new online, anytime use of Internet technology, Indiana's Bureau of Child Development and the Office of Child Care Quality, Access and Partnerships can help you find and connect with qualified, licensed and registered child care providers within reach of your daily work and living routines.

CareFinder is designed to help families and guardians know what to expect from a licensed child care center, home or registered ministry and legally licensed exempt providers. You can learn how Indiana laws apply to child care and what rules and requirements a licensed center, home or registered ministry and legally licensed exempt providers must follow. You can learn the ABCs of starting a child care business

"Carefinder" is fast, easy, and available all day, every day.

Web-Based Learning for Child Care Providers (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Carole Stein, Indiana Child Care Fund, Inc.
Address: Division of Family and Children
Indiana Family and Social Services Administration
402 W.Washington Street
Room W392
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 232-1148
Fax: (317) 232-4490
E-mail: cstein2@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

Efforts to provide high quality instruction and certification for child care workers are impeded by several factors.

- Child care is not a 'big city' phenomenon. Child care workers are distributed throughout the state, many in small towns and rural areas far from a campus.
- Child care workers work long hours and often have family responsibilities. Scheduling coursework at a fixed time can be very difficult. The worker's available time may not start until 9 or 10 p.m.
- Many child care workers have had limited education and are intimidated by college and vocational school settings.

Web-based learning provides an excellent solution to these problems as well as delivering instruction in the most cost-efficient means available.

Automated Client Management System (Madison County)

Contact Information:

Name: Connie Eldridge, Office Systems Manager
Address: JobSource
P.O. Box 149
Anderson, IN 46015-0149
Phone: (765) 641-6508
Fax: (765) 641-6548
E-mail: celdridge@madisoncty.com

Short summary of the initiative:

JobSource, a department of Madison County, Indiana, administers and coordinates job training and placement services to the citizens of Madison and Grant Counties. JobSource administers these programs under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) focusing on programs such as School-to-Work and welfare-to-work. With the implementation of the new legislation, JobSource was entering data and managing clients in several systems to administer their programs. Caseworkers were less productive because of the cumbersome approach of working with several systems to manage their cases.

JobSource selected Quest Information Systems to complete a requirements definition and needs analysis. The objective of the project was to define a new case management application, which could accept client data from the Indiana Department of Workforce Development's Client Self Service System (CS3), consolidate data from other client systems and allow case management from a single system. Additionally, the new system should automatically generate all required reports. The new system would be built on standard, open technology and modifiable to reflect new legislation.

Quest was selected to develop the JobSource Automated Client Management System. The new system was developed using non-proprietary technology. It supports WIA Case Management and IMPACT Case Management. The system also has powerful interfaces with the state's CS3 system.

The JobSource Automated Client Management System has been embraced by JobSource caseworkers who have benefited from the elimination of duplicated effort in entering and managing cases for their clients. This has resulted in more time available to counsel and assist clients and less time entering data and creating reports. The new system also supports satellite offices that can access client data. The system was certified as meeting state reporting requirements, allowing for faster processing of state reports.

TRANSPORTATION

Wheels to Work (Bartholomew County)

Contact Information:

Name: Bud Kincaid
Address: Sans Souci, Inc.
1526 13th Street
Columbus, IN 47201
Phone: (812) 372-3419
Fax: (812) 372-4207
E-mail: budk@sucasacolumbus.com

Short summary of the initiative:

The first of its kind in Indiana, *Wheels to Work* was developed in Bartholomew County as a collaborative program to meet a need in the ongoing process of welfare reform. It can be easily adapted to any other locality. By sharing our developmental approach, organization, process, forms, name, and logo, our hope is to enable other programs to be developed more easily and quickly.

Donating a Vehicle:

Donating a vehicle to *Wheels to Work* not only helps a local family become self-sufficient, it may provide a very valuable benefit to the donor: a tax deduction. Upon receipt of your vehicle and title, a program representative will issue a "Receipt of Goods." This receipt may be used as an itemized deduction on your federal income tax return. Simply estimate the fair market value of your vehicle (if under \$5,000) and write "Gift" as the selling price on the title. It's that easy! The following local agencies receive vehicles on a rotating basis on behalf of *Wheels to Work*: Family Service, Housing Partnerships, Human Services, Quinco, Sans Souci, and United Way. For more specific instructions on how to donate a vehicle or what to do if your vehicle's market value is more than \$5,000, please call Sans Souci at (812) 372-3419.

Rules of the Road:

An application procedure has been developed to provide the *Wheels to Work* team a framework with which to make sound decisions. The basic qualifiers for the program are:

1. Bartholomew County residency
2. Participation in a self-sufficiency program administered by Division of Family and Children, Horizon House, Human Services, Business Empowerment (Quinco), Family Self-Sufficiency (Columbus Housing Authority), Developmental Services, Vocational Rehabilitation, or Housing Partnerships
3. A valid Driver's license and an ability to obtain automobile insurance

4. Currently employed or attending school with the goal of employment, and lacks a reliable vehicle or access to public transportation
5. Meets income guidelines and demonstrates an ability to afford the maintenance, tax, license plate, and insurance costs of an automobile.

How does it work?

The application is processed by a self-sufficiency program case manager. In order to prioritize qualified applicants, a point system is used to give the highest priority to those with the greatest need. (For example, a person without a car who needs to take children to child care and go to work would have a high priority.) The vehicles are safety-checked by volunteer mechanics, repaired when necessary, and sold to approved applicants at an affordable cost. Payments received on the no-interest loans offset program initial repair and transfer expenses.

Participants are given the opportunity to select their vehicle when surplus inventory is available. The following organizations are crucial to the success of *Wheels to Work*:

Arvin Industries
Business Empowerment/Quinco
City of Columbus
Consumer Credit Counseling
Cummins Engine Foundation
Division of Family and Children
Columbus Housing Authority
Family Service
Graham-Todd Motors
Horizon House/Human Services, Inc.
Housing Partnerships, Inc.
Irwin-Sweeney-Miller Foundation
Irwin Union Bank
Sans Souci, Inc.
United Way of Bartholomew County

Wheels to Work (Brown County)

Contact Information:

Name: Linda Welty
Address: South Central Community Action
Program
P.O. Box 730
Nashville, IN 47448
Phone: (812) 988-6636

Short summary of the initiative:

Wheels to Work is a community-based automobile donation program developed to address the barrier of transportation for families working toward employment and self-sufficiency, with a need for reliable transportation. The program is designed to reward families for their demonstrated self-sufficiency efforts.

Car "Loan" Program (Crawford County)

Contact Information:

Name: Beth Wilson
Address: Blue River Services
304 Indiana Avenue
English, IN 47118
Phone: (812) 338-4930

Short summary of the initiative:

Blue River Services, a contractual service provider for the State of Indiana, has offered a car "loan" program for TANF-IMPACT clients since 1998. At the time of job placement, a TANF client qualifies for assistance in the amount of \$1,000, for both a car loan and up to 90 days of automobile insurance. The client is required to repay the car loan during the first year of employment. This year, Blue River Services began the rural transportation system in Crawford County in a continuing effort to overcome the lack of transportation barrier for those striving to reach self-sufficiency.

TICTAC (Dubois County)

Contact Information:

Name: Patricia Parker, IMPACT Program
Address: Dubois County Office of Family
and Children
P.O. Box 230
Jasper, IN 47545
Phone: (812) 482-2585

Short summary of the initiative:

Local Office of Family and Children staff, as well as staff of the IMPACT provider, serve on the transportation council. The council is working to identify and implement solutions to the transportation problem of affordable public transportation in a rural county. They are currently in the grant application process.

Ride Solutions (Greene County)

Counties: Greene, Martin

Contact Information:

Name: Steve Sacksteder
Address: Four Rivers Resource Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 249
Linton, IN 47441
Phone: (812) 847-2231

Short summary of the initiative:

Ride Solutions provides affordable transportation to individuals in these very rural counties. Transportation is provided to assist clients in reaching employment, medical appointments, Office of Family and Children appointments and other activities related to IMPACT participation. The program was funded through State and Federal grants dedicated to solving rural transportation problems.

Car Loan Program (Harrison County)

Contact Information:

Name: Darlene Stone
Address: Blue River Services
405 N. Capitol Avenue
Corydon, IN 47124
Phone: (812) 738-3198

Short summary of the initiative:

Blue River Employment Services, a Harrison County IMPACT contractor, offers a car loan program for recipients who have demonstrated characteristics of responsibility in that they are employed, have sufficient income to repay the car loan and have a need for reliable transportation to maintain employment.

Working Together

To Help Working Families

Vincennes Van Go (Knox County)

Contact Information:

Name: Nola Davis
Address: 2009 Prospect Avenue
Vincennes, IN 47591
Phone: (812) 882-2285

Short summary of the initiative:

Vincennes Van Go provides transportation for a reasonable cost for Knox County residents. Recently, the organization decided to pilot an expansion of hours of availability. The van will be available on Monday and Friday until 11pm for those who work the 3-11pm shift. If this proves to be cost-effective, they will expand the service to Monday through Friday.

Public Transportation Expansion (Madison County)

Contact Information:

Name: Colette M. Cooper
Address: City of Anderson Planning
Department
120 E. 8th Street
Anderson, IN 46018
Phone: (765) 648-6163
Fax: (765) 648-5926
E-mail: ccooper@cityofanderson.com

Short summary of the initiative:

TANF "Barrier Busting" Funds were used for one year to expand City bus service to evening and weekend hours to assist in easing the transition from "welfare to work." The City of Anderson Transportation System (CATS) currently maintains this service on an on-going basis and provides two demand response vehicles for curb-to-curb service to all residents of community. Trips related to employment are granted priority. Trips must be scheduled 24 hours in advance, and the cost one way is \$1 per passenger. A monthly pass is available for \$10. Expanded service hours are from 6:30 PM to 11:30 PM on weekdays and from 3:30 PM to 11:30 PM on Saturdays.

Wheels to Work (Orange County)

Contact Information:

Name: Stephanie McCameron
Destiny Buchanan
Address: First Chance Center
P.O. Box 287
986 W. Hospital Road
Paoli, IN 47454
Phone: (812) 723-4486
E-mail: impact@firstchancecenter.com

Short summary of the initiative:

Wheels to Work is a community-based automobile donation program developed to address the barrier of transportation for families working toward employment and self-sufficiency, with a need for reliable transportation. The program is designed to reward families for their demonstrated self-sufficiency efforts.

Wheels to Work (Perry County)

Contact Information:

Name: Stacey Allen
Address: Blue River Services
614 1/2 Main Street
Tell City, IN 47568
Phone: (812) 547-6040

Short summary of the initiative:

Blue River Employment Services (BRES) offers a car loan program for recipients who have demonstrated characteristics of responsibility in that they are employed, have sufficient income to repay the car loan and have a need for reliable transportation to maintain employment. In addition, BRES and the OFC work with clients to arrange ride-sharing for employed clients, as well as offering transportation to clients through an arrangement with a local service station via claim vouchers.

The New Inter-Urban (Randolph County)

Counties: Randolph, Jay and Delaware

Contact Information:

Name: Valerie Cook
Address: LifeStream Services
P.O. Box 308
1701 Pilgrim Boulevard
Yorktown, IN 47396
Phone: (765) 759-1121
E-mail: vcook@lifestreaminc.org

Short summary of the initiative:

The New Inter-Urban provides transportation to Randolph County, Jay County and rural Delaware County. This community-based system allows clients in rural areas to seek employment in locations that would have otherwise been inaccessible.

Wheels to Work (Tippecanoe County)

Contact Information:

Name: Tippecanoe County Office of Family
and Children
Address: 111 N. 4th Street
Lafayette, IN 47901
Phone: (765) 742-0400

Short summary of the initiative:

Wheels to Work is a community-based automobile donation program developed to address the barrier of transportation for families enrolled in a self-sufficiency plan, employed for a minimum of thirty days, with a need for reliable transportation. The program is designed to reward clients for their demonstrated self-sufficiency efforts.

Wheels to Work (Vigo County)

Contact Information:

Name: Goodwill Industries of the
Wabash Valley
Address: 2702 S. 3rd Street
P.O. Box 2720
Terre Haute, IN 47802-0720
Phone: (812) 235-1827

Short summary of the initiative:

Wheels to Work is a community-agency partnership to help families in need of affordable, reliable transportation to obtain a vehicle to meet their needs. Families must meet certain criteria, including being a resident of Vigo County, receiving services under a self-sufficiency plan and remaining employed for at least 30 days.

Working Together

To Help Working Families

Car Loan Program (Washington County)

Contact Information:

Name: Darlene Stone (Interim)
Address: 190 Becks Mill Road, Suite G
Salem, IN 47167
Phone: (812) 883-1068

Short summary of the initiative:

Blue River Employment Services offers a car loan program to recipients who have demonstrated characteristics of responsibility in that they are employed, have sufficient income to repay the car loan and have a need for reliable transportation to maintain employment.

YOUTH SERVICES

Learning for Life (Statewide)

Contact Information:

Name: Learning for Life
Address: Crossroads of America
1900 N. Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46206-1966
Phone: (317) 925-1900
E-mail: john.beach@ces.purdue.edu

Short summary of the initiative:

Learning for Life is an educational program designed to meet the needs of youth and schools. It helps youth meet the challenge of growing up by teaching character and good decision-making skills and then linking those skills to the real world.

Developed by professional educators and child-development experts, the Learning for Life curriculum has three basic components: school-based learning, connecting activities, and work-based learning. Combined, these components provide a structure through which youth learn the value of respect and responsibility while discovering a world of career opportunities.

More information can be found at
<http://www.learning-for-life.org>

Working Together

To Help Working Families

Genesis Alternative Program (Carroll County)

Contact Information:

Name: Gil Smith
 Address: Genesis Alternative Program
 P.O. Box 276
 Delphi, IN 46923
 Phone: (765) 564-2409
 Fax: (765) 564-6088
 E-mail: gsmith2@fssa.state.in.us

Short summary of the initiative:

The *Genesis Alternative Program* is for out-of-school suspension and expelled students. We work with both school corporations and arrange for the student to attend *Genesis* while they are out of school. The program works on life skills issues, job search, mentoring, and counsels students on their options for the future. This program is starting its 5th school year and has had several success stories. The initiative is a product of collaborative efforts with the Office of Family and Children (OFC), the local school system, and the Retired Teachers Association. The initiative receives funding from the OFC, Step Ahead, United Way, in addition to several grants.

Noah's Ark (Clark County)

Contact Information:

Name: Joan Smith
 Address: Noah's Ark Inc. Children's Village
 101 Noah's Lane
 Jeffersonville, IN 47130
 Phone: (812) 288-6800
 Fax: (812) 288-6853

Short summary of the initiative:

This unique facility offers an opportunity for children to be cared for in an innovative, safe, family-like foster environment as parents attempt to make changes in their lives that will make family independence possible. The facility features community-gathering areas, a food pantry and a wetlands nature preserve area. Staff members are located on the site during business hours, but each individual home operates as a traditional household.

WIA Youth Services (Fountain County)

Counties: Benton, Carroll, Clinton, Fountain, Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Warren, White

Contact Information:

Name: Robert M. Taylor, Director of
 Employment and Training
 Address: Community Action Program, Inc. of
 Western Indiana
 P.O. Box 188
 418 Washington Street
 Covington, IN 47932
 Phone: (765) 793-4881
 Fax: (765) 793-4884
 E-mail: rtaylor@ccsdana.net

Short summary of the initiative:

Workforce Investment Act services for low-income youth (ages 14-21) intended to improve educational and skill competencies, provide opportunities for training, provide opportunities to participate in activities related to leadership development, decision-making, citizenship and community service, and increase the employment, retention and earnings of participants. Services include objective assessment and development of an individual service strategy, tutoring, study skills training, work experience, internships, job shadowing, occupational skill training, comprehensive guidance and counseling.